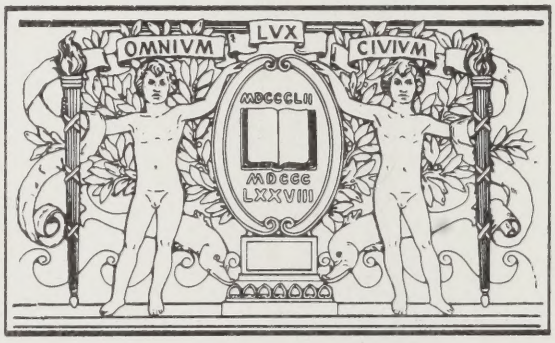

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THE WILLETT FAMILIES OF NORTH AMERICA

Being A COMPREHENSIVE GUIDE Encompassing

Willett, Willet, Willette, Willit, Willot
Willets, Willetts, Willits and other variations
and Early Spellings of the Willett Surname

"Honor Thy Father and Thy Mother"

Volume II

compiled by
Albert James Willett, Jr.

A Willett House Publication

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To my very patient wife,

Diane Lynn

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CHAPTER SIXTEEN
WILLIAM WILLETT of ACCOMACK COUNTY, VIRGINIA, 1645-1719

The first known account of white men landing on the Eastern Shore was left to us in 1603 by Thomas Canner. He was one of several men who sailed with Captain Bartholomew Gilbert in the "Elizabeth." They stopped at the Eastern Shore in July. Captain Gilbert

Accomack County and surrounding area, from
"A Map of the Most Inhabited Part of Virginia..."
drawn by Joshua Fry and Peter Jefferson in 1751.

was the son of Sir Humphrey Gilbert, and a nephew of Sir Walter Raleigh, and had been sent on a voyage to the new world in search of the Lost Colony. A storm forced him to seek refuge inside the northern cape of Virginia. He entered the bay in quest of a good harbor, and "seeing to the north an inviting country, lined with great trees at the mouth of what appeared to have been a river (channel)" had headed for the Eastern Shore. Captain Gilbert left his ship (the "Elizabeth) anchored about a mile off shore and taking a landing party of seven went in search of fuel and water. Indians had been observing the landing party, and without warning attacked. Captain Gilbert was one of two men to die in that ambush. After considering their alternatives, the crew of the "Elizabeth" weighed anchor and returned to London, arriving there in September 1603, only to find the city greviously infected with the plague.

This landing was not the first landing by white men at this early period. However, it is the only one we have that has left us a sufficiently written and accurate account to be certain that it is connected with the Eastern Shore of Virginia. Spanish ships had most certainly landed on this low lying peninsula in search of fresh water and provisions sometime before this ambush occured. The Spanish had been coming and going in and out of this great bay for several decades, and they had even established a shore-lived Jesuit mission in the area of Yorktown on the western shore. However, since the English and Spanish were almost continually at war in this period, the Spanish explorations in this area were kept as state secrets and the only hints of their landings is in the reports of the native American Indians who lived on the shore that other white men and their "canoes" had approached and landed in the past.

In 1606, in "merry olde" England, Michael Drayton, a noted poet, had written the following poem extolling the virgin land which lay across the awesome expanse of ocean to the west of the British Isles.

"Virginia
Earth's one paradise
Where nature hath in store
Fowle, Vension, and Fish,
And the Fruitfull'st Soyle,
Without your Toyle,
Three harvests more,
All greater than your Wish,
and the ambitious Vine,
Crownes with his purple Masse,
The Cedar reaching hie
To kisse the Sky,
The Cypress, Pine,
And usefull Sassafras.

We do not know what purposes prompted Drayton to paint such a idyllic picture of a world of which no one really knew. Perhaps, he had succumbed to the temptation to see a "greener pasture" on the other side of the fence. In this case, "olde" England was becoming overcrowded, there were sharp divisions between the rich and poor, land was scarce, and terrible plagues could decimate the population, such as the one mentioned that had just occured in 1603. Drayton's decription was no different than any other promotional literature which advertises a paradise (which is always, always, somewhere else, just over the next horizon).

In 1607, the "Godspeed", "Discovery", and "Susan Constant" embarked the first permenant settlers at what would become James Town. In 1608, Captain John Smith led a

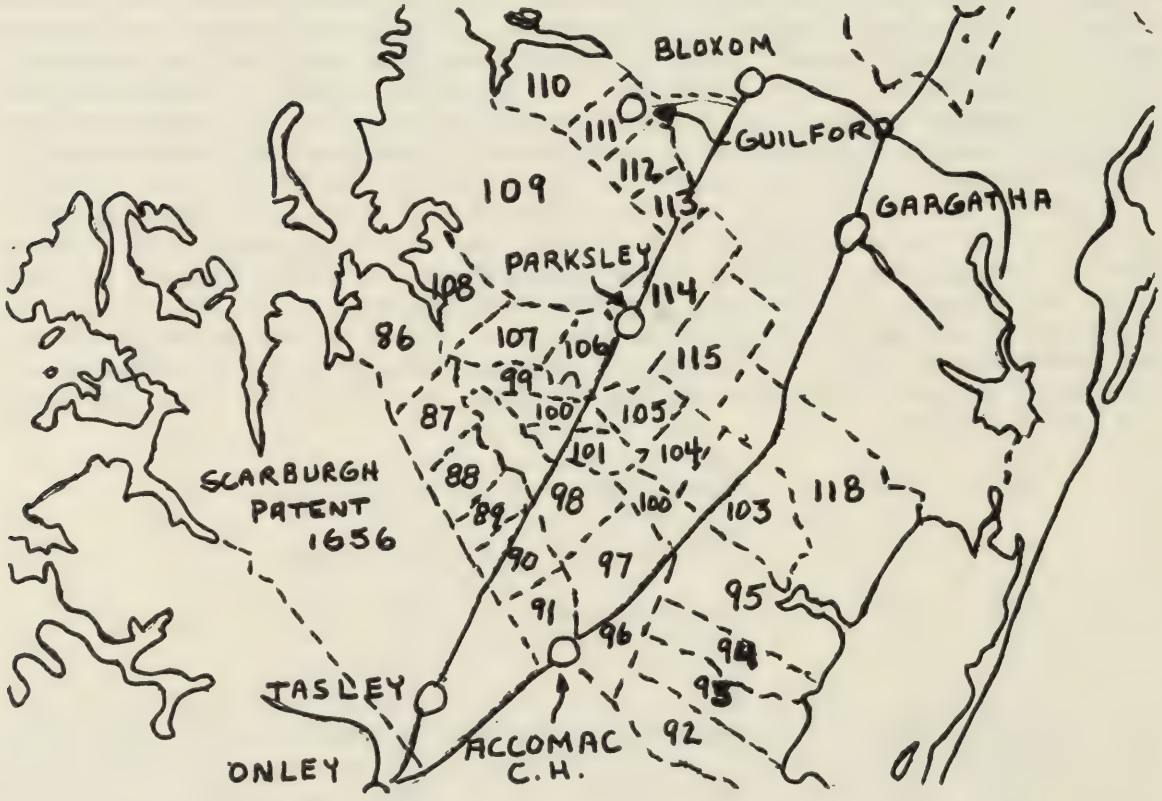
party of 14 from Jamestown to explore and map the area which came to be called by its Indian name, Accamacke. In his published description of the lands he found, Captain Smith described the Eastern Shore as a place where "Heaven and Earth never agreed better to frame a place for man's habitation." The first permanent English settlers came over in 1614 to obtain salt for the James River plantations. Salt was a great necessity at that time, as the only was to preserve meat. The salt was obtained by building evaporation ponds in the shallows at a place were there was already evidence of a naturally forming salt ponds. A little later, Lady Dale opened a plantation at the present Old Plantation Creek, and the Shore began to become populated as land grants were made to those desiring of some reward. Later the land patent system developed were a person could apply for 50 acres of land for each person he imported into the colony. This "headright" system would remain in effect until nearly the close of the century.

In 1634, the Eastern Shore became one of the original Virginia counties and was named Northampton after a shire to the northwest of London from which several of the early leaders of the Shore had come. As the shore became populated, it became necessary to divide to form a second county, so in 1662, the old name, Accomack, was revived for the northern county when Northampton County was subdivided. It would be incorrect to think of the new Accomacke County of 1662 as a settled area. At that time, the county was settled along the northern side of Occohannock Creek, along Nandua, Pungoteague, and Onancock Creeks. Everything north of Onancock Creek was only very sparsely settled. The Fry and Jefferson map of 1751 shows a country which is still reliant on the numerous waterways and creeks for transportation. Towns never did develop on the Shore besides what was required for a minimum of local political structure. Even in the present day, none of the towns of the Eastern Shore could be considered to be near the size or organization of a Hampton or Newport News on the western shore.

The first land grant in the area above present day Onancock had been issued to Tabitha and Matilda Scarburgh in 1656 for approximately 10,000 acres of land that is bounded by Chessconessex, Deep, and Doe Creeks, on the west, and the towns of Onley, Tasley, and Accomac on the east. No land was granted north of this tract until after the new county of Accomack was formed. The patents in this area were issued in the year 1663. Following is a list of the patents for the area north of the Scarburgh grant, with the name of the person initially receiving the grant, and the amount of acreage which came with the patent.

A86	1663	Richard Hill	1,000 acres
A87	1663	William Gowers	600 acres
A88	1663	James Atkinson	500 acres
A91	1664	John Dye	450 acres
A99	1664	Fenlaw Mackwilliam	400 acres
A100	1664	John Cary	400 acres
A107	1664	Thomas Orily	400 acres
A108	1664	John Lewis	1,000 acres
A109	1664	Edmund Scarburgh	1,000 acres

A89	1666	John A. Rue	300 acres
A90	1666	Christopher Thomas	600 acres
A98	1666	Richard Hill	1,000 acres
A104	1666	Christopher Thompson	800 acres
A105	1666	John Lewis	500 acres
A106	1666	William Onoughton	500 acres
A101	1667	William White	400 acres
A102	1673	Finla Mackwilliam	400 acres



Hunting Creek area of Accomack County, from
Ralph T. Whitelaw's The Eastern Shore.
The patent designations are from Whitelaw.

The map of the Hunting Creek area depicts the land patents and shows their general location. This sketch is from Whitelaw's The Eastern Shore and for convenience follows the numbering system that Whitelaw used in his work. A general trend can be noticed from a glance at the listing of land patents. The land patents were taken up in a northerly direction with the first patents generally being granted on the main streams, creeks, and waterways.

For a moment, let us take a look at the miscellaneous information which connects the family name, Willett, with the Colony of Virginia. Willett families have had a long association with Virginia both as financiers of the new adventure, and as adventurers. As early as 1610, a John Willest (sic) of old England is a citizen member of the Virginia Company who subscribed £ 37.10. This is in a list, dated Anno Dom: 1610 (1611 new style), of "the names such have signed with the somes (sic) of money by them adventured on three years towards the supply of the Plantation begonne in Virginia, accordinge to their order of writeing for that business, remaininge in the Register Booke in the hands of Sir Thomas Smith, Treasurer" (VCA, S.2, V.3, page 24). Unfortunately for us, no other information is known about this Willett; he may have been one of the numerous London Willetts, or possibly one of the Bristol Willetts who were members of the Merchant Adventurers of that city for four generations. Two reasons can be advanced as why the Bristol Willett family may have been the Willett's who made the contributions in 1610. Firstly, this Bristol Willett family was relatively well to do, and had a long association with the Merchant Adventurers which was (and still is) a society of entrepreneurs, and, secondly, most of the immigrants to the colonies came from the Bristol and surrounding areas (including an Abraham Willett who came from Bristol to Virginia).

In 1620, a John Willett and a William Willett appear in the Randolph Manuscript of the "Adventurers of the Virginia Company." This mention is in "the addition" to that manuscript of a previously missing page (VCA, S.2, V.3, page 24). The John Willett mentioned here may (or may not) have been the same John Willett mentioned previously in 1610. Again, no information is known about these Willett backers of the adventure which was beginning in the new world.

In 1629, Thomas Willett went to the much more northern Plymouth Plantation in the ship "Mayflower". This was definitely not the celebrated "Mayflower" of 1620, but one of the numerous ships which shared that name. He is mentioned here, only, because he established a large family in Plymouth, New Amsterdam, and in Swansea, Rhode Island, and in 1664 became the first mayor of New York. Since he was successful and is often noted as being "the first mayor of New York" most everyone attempts to claim him as the founder of their Willett line. This is definitely an erroneous assumption in most cases, and there is a possibly that his line may have even become extinct in the third generation. There are still questions to be answered concerning two of his sons, but most lines claiming descent from Captain Thomas Willett have an obvious defect. Captain Thomas Willett did a thriving commercial business with both the English and the Dutch, and even sold a ship to a merchant of Norfolk. However, the sale took place in New Amsterdam, and is only made a part of the Virginia record by the Norfolk merchant who purchased it. There is an old tradition mentioned in Bookstaver's Willett Genealogy of 1907 that one of his Captain Thomas Willett's settled in Virginia and established the Eastern Shore line of Willetts. Whether or not there is any truth in this tradition is unknown.

Numerous Willetts arrived from old England and settled in Virginia. Their names are in the land grant records issued to the person who is claiming a patent by right of paying the passage to the colony of the persons listed. Such a claim does not mean that the persons listed were indentured servants, or men of low position. A person was entitled to 50 acres for himself and for each other person he brought into the colony. Thus a person would always include his wife, children, servants and other kinsmen. A person could come

and go to England, and for each such passage, he was entitled to an additional 50 acres. Also, some people did not come into the colony to be land owners or farmers, but came to be merchants, tradesmen, or artisians who had special abilities to sell. Evidently, the entitlement to 50 acres from the state was a right that could be bought sold or traded. These patents are the source of miscellaneous names which are briefly mentioned and then usually lost without another trace. This is now it is with most of the following names. James Willett is living in a new Norfolk in 1636; Peter is in James City County in 1638 and Henry in 1640; and the list continues with another James, a Peter, George, John, Robert, David, Edward, Sarah, Elizabeth, Thomas, Abraham, Richard, Arthur, and William. This list encompasses a period of forty years between 1635 and 1675. Several names are repeated in such a manner as to indicate that several different Willetts may have arrived in Virginia with the same name. However, nothing is known of their background, or of their English ancestry, except for Abraham Willett. He was from the Bristol family of Willetts who were also members of the Merchant Adventurers of the same city, and he came to Virginia in the 1650s, stayed 8 years, and returned home.

Two Willetts settled on the Eastern Shore, William Willett in Accomack County and the subject of this chapter, and John Willett in Northampton County and the subject of the next chapter. What were the motives which led each to immigrate? From whence did they come (Bristol, Gloucester, Wales, "New" England, or somewhere else)? And who where they related to? We do not know. But for whatever reason, William Willett did come to Accomack County and left a progenity which continues to this day. One descendent, Zane Willett, still lives close to the original land which William purchased in the 1670s. Another line of descendents live on the Peninsula in York County, Hampton and Newport News, Virginia.

What kind of land did William come to? As late as 1650 there was an Indian chief, Onecrer, at Pokomoke, and an Indian King of Metompkin, areas within walking distance of the present county seat of Accomac, and close to the home of William Willett. Onancock, to the south, remained an Indian village until after 1670. However, this had changed by 1680, and Onancock became the Port of Entry and the county seat of the newly formed Accomack County.

Though they look secure and destined for uninterrupted growth, the American plantations remained as tenuous footholds of English power during this early period of colonization before the power of the Indians was broken east of the Applachian Mountains. The native tribal American Indian had threatened the very existence of the Tidewater settlements in two terrifying massacres (1622 and 1644). The fear of a sudden repetition of such a massacre was an ever present spectre and the fear of an Indian alliance between the local Algonguin Indian and the fearsome Iroquois federation remained a real possibly until the close of the century.

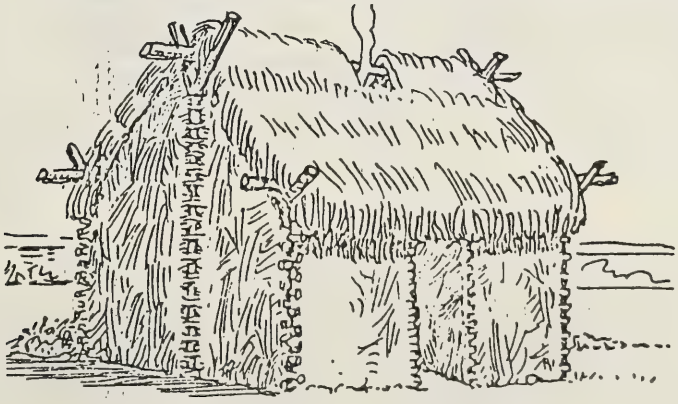
Other concerns were present. Dutch-English conflict came from the that the Dutch had settled and developed New Amsterdam right between the Virginia Colony and the Massachusetts Bay Colony. In the first three decades the struggle for survival by all colonists alike, whether Dutch or English, caused conflict to be minimized in the common struggle for survival. The Spanish were in the south, the French in the north in Canada, and all settlements were concerned with the immediate concern for survival instead of the European rival claims to the new world territories. In 1651, the English Crown passed the Navigation Acts. Prior to the Act and with free trade, tobacco had been selling at 4 pence per pound in 1650. During the ensuing period of rivalry and warfare and restrictive trade, the price of tobacco dropped, by 1667, to a halfpenny a pound.

A Dutch-English war was always a possibly, and the numerous Dutch inhabitants of the Shore were viewed with suspicion and sometimes hostility. Pirates could raid any settlement with near immunity and escape before sufficient able bodied men could be

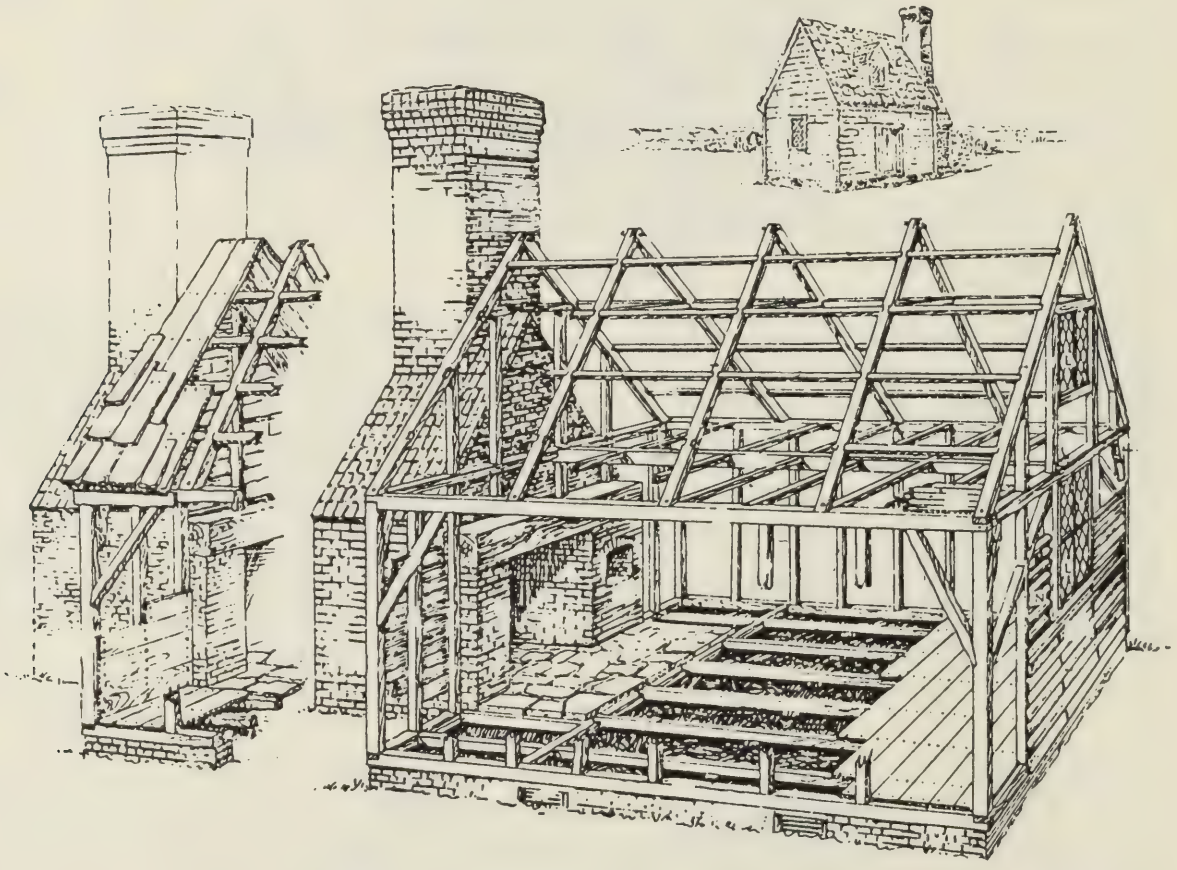
mustered to oppose them. Times were uncertain, and a French or Spanish fleet could potentially attack without warning.

The Eastern Shore was divided into two counties by an Act of the General Assembly of March, 1663. The first court of Accomack County was held on 21 Apr 1663 at the ordinary belonging to Anthony Hopkins of Pungoteague. Accomack was sparsely settled by a population that was dispersed over an area twice the size of Northampton County. In 1663, the settled area of Accomack County did not reach even to the present towns of Parksley and Accomack. 1664 brought the opening of new patents in the vicinity of Doe and Hunting Creeks.

"Housing was of immediate concern to every immigrant, no matter at what point in the century he arrived. But contrary to popular myth, Englishmen did not spent their first days in America building log cabins. Not only were log cabins unknown to the English, but their traditional types of houses were adequate to their needs, and an abundance and variety of building materials were readily available. The settler sought to erect a temporary shelter against the elements, so his initial home was likely to be a one-room, thatched-roofed house that Englishmen called a cottage (see sketches). Constructed of wattle and daub, the cottages often lacked windows and wooden flooring, although they sometimes included a small attic. They were heated and lit by fireplaces made of logs chinked and plastered with clay. At best the wattle-and-daub cottage was a mean abode, which sufficed until a colonist could find time to build a better structure; when he did the cottage probably became a barn or storage facility" (Billings, page 290).



"A more permenant kind of dwelling was the frame house. Customarily frame houses were of single bay, story-and-a-half construction (see sketch on next page). To save space, outside chimneys, either catted or brick, were locate at either end of the building, and instead of thatching, builders roofed these homes with wooden shingles. The bay and the attic each could be partitioned into two rooms, and depending upon the planter's means their walls might be plastered. Access to the upper rooms, which could be used for sleeping or storage, was by a ladder. These dwellings were somewhat more commodius and livable than wattle-and-daub cottages because they contained greater floor space and such amenities as windows and wooden flooring. Despite these embellishments, the typical frame house was cramped, poorly lit, and underheated. There was little privacy; few families enjoyed the luxury of having individual rooms for each member of the household" (Billings, page 290).



Another concern of the new land owners was in clearing the land to make it productive. Indentured servants would have to be imported, and laborers hired to begin clearing the virgin forests. This was a task that had been made a little easier by the Indians who had lived on the land before the white man. The Indians had routinely burned the underbrush as a method of driving herds of deer into a natural neck of land were they could be easily hunted. This annual burning had left much of the shore in a natural state

so clear of underbrush that it was said that a troop of mounted horse could easily ride through the forest.

William Willett would have followed the same pattern. A temporary shelter would go up. Then would come the inferior mud and wattle house which would have been familar to the workman from "old" England. Since it was necessary to become both self-sufficient and begin producing a profit from this new land, a grist mill was needed in the immediately vicinity. Such a pattern must have been followed by William Willett. A temporary shelter, first, a mud and wattle cottage, and then a sturdy one story cottage with a loft, would be built. The mill would be a high priority. As a major landowner, William would be expected to attend the Quarter Session of the Court on the first Monday. "By the summer of 1665, the Accomack County Court was meeting at Folkes tavern in Pungoteague" (Turman, page 66). Attendance at Court was mandatory for most of the landowners, and Monday Quarter Sessions became an important event where all the leaders could gather, take care of their political and communial responsibilities and plan for the next season.

However, the Shore was effected by the greater events which were transpiring in the world. "The Second Dutch War started in the spring of 1665 and all ships to England were ordered to sail in convoys protected by armed English ships. This meant reduced communication with England and longer periods between new supplies ordered from England. It resulted in a period of austerity for the Eastern Shore" (Thurman, page 68). This war also slowed the opening of new patents, and caused other projects to be postponed.

> "Another inconvenience the Second Dutch War caused the Shore was the necessity for constant alert of the militia and keeping a watchman on duty at the entrance to the bay. Dutch ships did enter Cheaspeake Bay and they captured a number of English ships in a tobacco convoy. "On June 4, 1667, Newport News witnessed a one-sided naval engagement when 5 Dutch warships under one Abraham Crimson sailed into Hampton Roads, passed some 20 small vessels of England's tobacco fleet at the mouth of the James, and continued up the river. Several miles upstream, the Netherlands encountered the British frigate, Elizabeth, mounting 46 guns, which was the sole defender of Cheaspeake waters.
>
> The Dutchmen were flying the Spanish colors, as they passed the tobacco ships, they even sang out the soundings in English. But as they approached the Elizabeth, they opened fire. Taken by complete surprise, the frigate could offer no resistance. Her Captain was ashore attending a wedding, and the remainder of her crew was forced to surrender after firing only one volley. Having disposed of the Elizabeth, the Netherlanders retraced their course to overtake the tobacco fleet. Some of its vessels were burned and the others made prizes" (Newport News, 325 Years, A Record of the Progress of a Virginia Community, ed. Brown, Alexander Crosby, Newport News, Virginia, 1946, page 333).

Although there is no record of the loss this caused Eastern Shore growers, there must have been some. The threat of Dutch warships in Virginia waters was ended in July, 1667, with a five year cease fire and a no ship-seizing agreement" (Turman, page 68).

In 1667, a sailor from Bermuda landed at Accomack, ill of smallpox. He was isolated by the physicians and chirurgeons and placed in a log house in the woods. But in a time of

delirium, he escaped and wandered into the Indian town. The Indians had no natural immunity from such a disease, and they died by the hundreds across the whole length and breath of the Shore. The survivors always believed afterwards that the sailor had been sent among them by the whites to kill them (Whitelaw, page 18). The whites also suffered from the same disease. The Court took notice of the epidemic and "A proclamation was issued 7th Jany 1667/8 by the commander warning the people affected with that leprous and loathsome disease, the smallpox. They were to remain in their houses 30 days after they were cleaned, with many other charges, in default of which the act of King James was to be put into practice" (Crowson, page 88).

P.1

WILLIAM WILLETT and ANNE of Hunting Creek, Accomack County, Virginia

William Willett, the ancestor of the Accomack County, Virginia, Willett family, was born about 1645 most likely in "old" England. His birth is fixed about 1645 by two dispositions dated November 19, 1680, were he stated he was about 35 years old, and April 7, 1685, when he stated he was about 40 forty years of age. Nothing is known about his early life or parents. However, a little may be surmised. He was from a well-to-do family who could afford a proper education; he may have been apprenticed to a miller. He was well educated because in later life he cherished his "sermon book" and a "common prayer book" and, he kept (mentioned in his will of 1715) a "parcel of old books." As a young man in Virginia, his neighbors depended upon his knowledge and expertise to construct and run a mill.

A William Willett of Munmouth, Wales, England, is listed as coming to Virginia. No year is given, but it was between 1654 and 1663. There is no guarantee that this William Willett of Munmouth is the same as our William Willett of Accomack. However, William Willett of Accomack was about 18 in 1663. Munmouth is across the channel from Bristol. Both Munmouth and Bristol had numerous Willett families living in the immediate vincity.

William Willett, the progenitor of the Accomack County Willett line, was transported to the Virginia Colony at the expense of Captain Richard Hill. William's name is mentioned in the land patent that Captain Hill received on October 3, 1671 (Nugent, vol II). Captain Hill was the largest landowner in the area. Hill had patented 1,000 acres in 1663 and another 1,000 acres in 1666. Our William Willett must have arrived in Accomack County about this time. However, the earliest mention of our William Willett is in the July 31, 1668, will of William Gower. Gower had purchased 600 acres (A87) just west of the property of Teague Anderson. William Willett and George Middleton were left "each of them one Cow-Calfe of this yeares fall" (AccCoWills, page 2, probated 5 Jan 1668; and Nottingham, page 2). William was 19. What the relationship that William Willett and George Middleton had to William Gower is unknown. It must be kept in mind that it is possible that William Willett could have even been born on the Eastern Shore to an ancestor who has not yet come to light; however, the most likely place of his birth is in "old" England an most likely he arrived about 1663 in Virginia. And because of his obvious education and middle class wealth he may have come from the Bristol family of Willett's. Any of the above possibilities is only speculation at this point, and we await further information to see which is the correct assumption. In 1668, there were only 401 tithables in the county, 35 who were tradesmen (Crowson, page 86).

On October 3, 1670, the General Assembly, under Governor Berkeley, ordered Accomack to be reunited with Northampton County. This order was short-lived and in a little over three years Accomack would become a separate county. This separation,

joining, and reseparation is only mentioned to clarify any mentions of the Accomack Willett family which may come to light in the Northampton County records.

Perhaps William Willett came into an inheritance at age 21. If this assumption was true, it would explain how he acquired sufficient money to go into partnership with George Middleton. In 1671, William Willett and George Middleton were partners in a purchase of land (A101) from Teague (Teige) and Nollo Anderson by a "Bill of Sale". However, this deed was not recorded until June 24, 1673.

"To all Christian People to whom this present writings shall come: I Teige Anderson of ye County of Northampton, formerly Accomacke, send greetings in our Lord God above...Know you that I the Said Teige Anderson for full and valuable consideration to mee in hand paid by William Willet and George Anderson of ye County aforesaid, the receipt whereof I doe hereby acknowledge. Doe alien, grant, bargained, Sell, enfeoffe, deliver, confirm, assign, and...unto ye Said William Willet and George Middleton and their heirs for ever, all that piece and parcell of Land Situate in Hunting Creek in ye County aforesaid, as ye same is more particularly bounded or intented to be bounded, laid out, and specified in a certain patent bearing date ye Ninth day of Ocyober, 1667, granted to ye Said William White containing by estimation foure hundred Acres with all ye woods, waters, Rivers, profits, Commodities and appurtenances whatsoever thereunto belonging or appertaining together with all my right, title, interest, claim, and demand...to hold the Said Land with ye appurtenances forever in as full and ample manner to all intents and purposes as by virtue of any right, title, or claim whatsoever may, might, or could have, hold occupy, possess, or enjoy ye Same. And I ye Said Teige Anderson and my heirs ye Sd Lands and premises with ye appurtenances unto ye Said Wm Willett and George Middleton and their heirs against me and my heirs Shall and will warrant and forever defend by these presents. In witness whereof I have hereunto Sett my hand and seale this the thirtieth day of September and in ye yeare of our Lord one thousand, seventy one.

(the mark of)
Teige Anderson

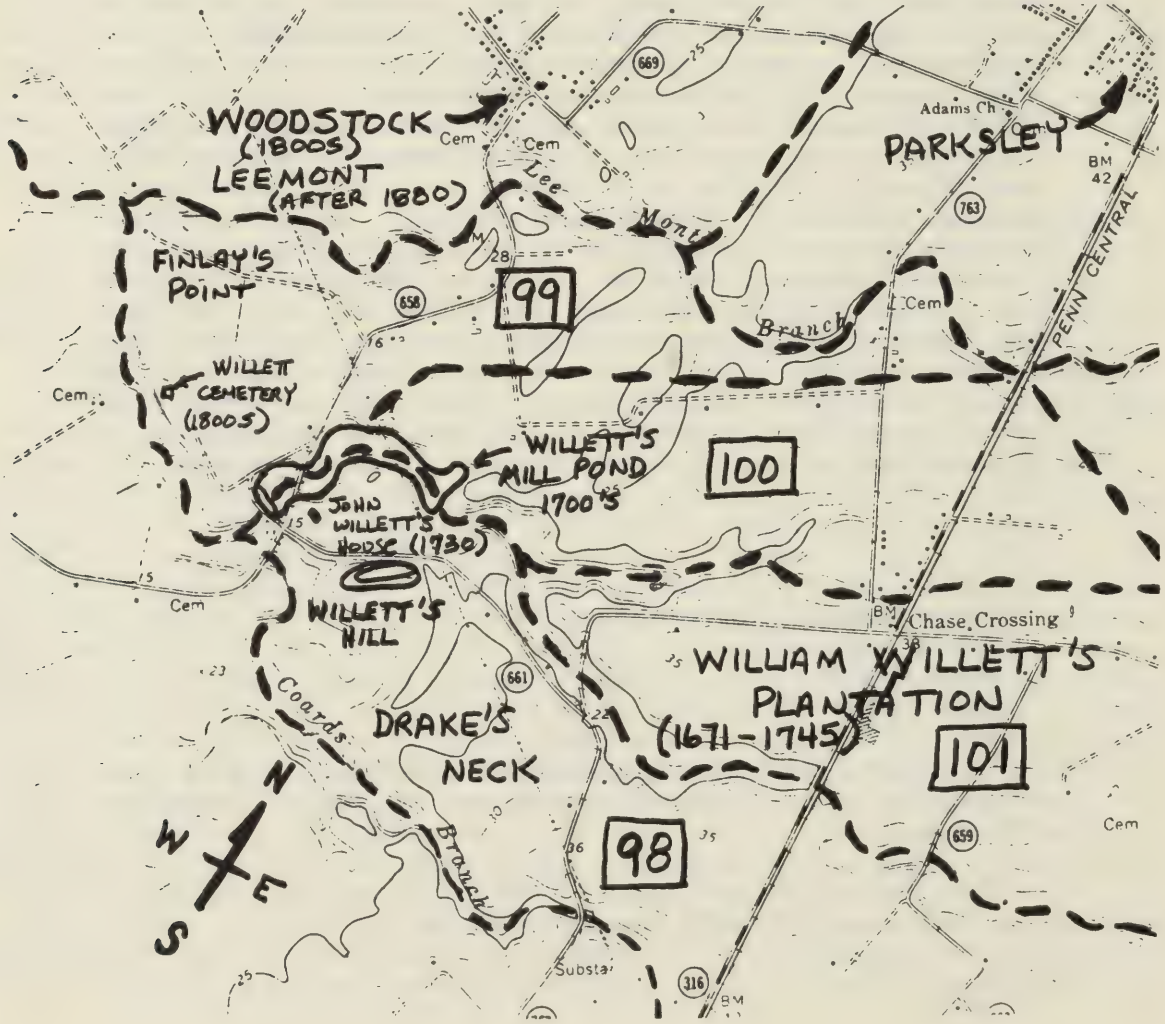
Signed Sealed and Delivered in
the presence of
Roger Ternell
Robt Watson

The 6th of June, 1673, Acknowledged in open Court by ye Said Teige Anderson as his will Act and Deed to ye Said Wm Willett and Geo: Middleton.

Recorded 24th of June, 1673. Test: Dan: Mercher"
(AccCoDeeds 1671-1673, pages 211 and 212).

Teige Anderson also gave an "Assignment" and Nollo Anderson a "Relinguishment of Dower" (AccCoGrantee Index 1663-1799, page 212).

The shaded portion of the sketch below shows the relative location of the 400 acres which Teague Anderson sold to William Willett. This became the Willett plantation in 1671 and remained in the family until after 1745 when Ambrose Willett, the son of William sold, first, his deceased sister's acreage to Thomas Wise, and then sometime later sold his own acreage. By 1766, no member of the Willett family owned any of this land that had been acquired by William. The inland neck of land just south and across the small branch was known as Drake's Neck and played a large part in the history of the Willett family. The point of land to the west of the Willett tract, bounded by the present day Leemont Branch and the head of Hunting Creek, was known as Finla's Point after William Willett's father-in-law, Finla Mackwilliam. Leemont is a recent name which came into use after 1878. Drummond's Mill Pond, and Coard's Branch are names which came into use after the 1830s. The rail line and the town of Parksley (in the upper right corner of the map on the previous page) came into being in the 1870s. The area shown on the map became the home of the William Willett family for the next 300 years.



The purchase of a 400 acre tract was a large and expensive proposition even in 1671. That William Willett could be a partner in such a purchase indicates that he had some personal wealth to rely on. The fact that he could sign his name shows he had some education. Since later deeds show that the landowners of the area depended on his knowledge and ability to build and run a grist mill, William must have been apprenticed or trained for such a trade. Wealth, education, and training all point to the Bristol Willetts as being the most likely family to have such a son. It was a usual practice for the Merchant Adventurers to train their children in trades and then send these children to the far corners of the Empire to run the commercial venturers which they had founded. This plantation enterprise must have consumed much of William's and George's energy for the next couple of years. The forest would have to have been cleared by hand, crops planted by hand, a house and barn built from scratch to include the felling of the tree and the sawing of the lumber out of that tree, and indentured servants procured to keep the land cleared and productive. This joint purchase eventually came to be owned solely by William Willett; and it remained the main plantation during William Willett's life.

In 1672, the five year truce between England and Holland ended and a new war began which lasted for two years. There was bound to be an impact felt on the Eastern Shore. Regular commerce between England and her colonies was interrupted. One large fleet of Dutch ships destroyed eleven Virginia merchant ships before the armed English ships could drive them away. Thus, the Dutch threat ended; however, what is obvious in retrospect (that is the total cessation of hostitilies) was not so obvious at the time.

William Willett had been born about 1645 according to two affidavits he gave later in life, and he married Ann MackWilliam sometime between 1668-1680; the most likely date for their marriage is 1673 when Finla Mackwilliam transfered land to William. Such a transfer may have amounted to a dowery for Elizabeth. And such a transfer would be a relatively common occurence at this time period. This marriage would have definitely taken place on the Shore.

Mary Mackwilliam gave a quit claim to William Willett for a 400 acre patent that adjoined and was just to the east of the patent which he owned in copartnership with George Middleton. Perhaps this was a dowry for his marriage to Ann Mackwilliam. Possibly it was a simple sale by a father-in-law to his new son. This land was more inland than the other land holdings in the area, and therefore it probably was less desireable and had less value than land which was on or close to a creek. It was a law that the land must be planted and seeded, so possibly Finla Mackwilliam had already begun clearing the forest before selling it to William. Still William would have had to divide some of his time and attention to this new tract of land.

It was not much later (January 6, 1674) that the final separation of Accomack and Northampton counties was made by Governor Berkeley. Virginia had a scare when King Charles granted all of Virginia (except the Northern Neck) to Henry Bennett, Earl of Arlington, and Lord Thomas Culpeper on February 25, 1674. No one in Virginia could be sure that he possessed a valid title to his property. Lord Culpeper had purchased his partner's share in 1681, and had purchased the proprietary rights to the Northern Neck. This state of affairs lasted until 1684 when Charles II insisted on having these proprietary rights returned to the crown. King Charles II died on Feburary 6, 1685, and this episode was closed.

The Indians became a real menace and threat to the western frontier. Indian raids occured, and whites were murdered. The raids were causing settlements to be abandoned, and led to the formenting of opinions which caused Nathaniel Bacon to forment the rebellion of 1676. "Disagreeing with Governor William Berkeley's cautious efforts to suppress the violence, Nathaniel Bacon and 200 frontiermen massacred friendly Indians along Virginia's southern border. The rebels eventually stormed into Jamestown and forced the

assembly to empower Bacon to wipe out all Indians. A civil war flared. The rebels burned Jamestown to the ground." Bacon died of a sudden illness, probably bought on by his campaigns in the swamps and wilderness. His body was buried secretly near West Point. A pretense of rebellion continued for a while, and some followers held in Surry County what is today called "Bacon's Castle." However, the rebellion he created died with him. The Eastern Shore was virtually untouched by these calamities.

> "In late January, 1677, the small fleet bearing Sir John Berry, Colonel Herbert Jeffreys, and Colonel Francis Meryson, the joint royal commissioners for settling the greviances and affairs of Virginia, anchored off Newport News. Four days later, Sir William Berkeley came aboard their flagship, the Bristol. He was handed instructions from the King and the Board of Trade. The instructions directed him to return to England to give account of the Rebellion and appointed Jeffreys acting governor in his absence. Berkeley was ordered to publish a royal proclamation granting a general pardon to all the rebels except Bacon" (Newport News, page 333).

It was as Bacon's Rebellion was faltering that Finlaw and Mary Mackwilliam reaffirmed land to William Willett; this was on June 5, 1677. Finla gave an "Assignment" and Mary a "Relinquishment of Dower" (AccCoGrantee Index 1663-1799, pages 57-58).

> "Know all men by these presents that I, Ffinlow Mackwilliam, of Accomack County doe hereby assign and Set over, give, grant and deliver unto Wm Willet of the Same county and his heirs forever all my Estate, Right, Title, and interest to this grant Pattent and the Land therein contained, and the Same Shall warrant against me and my heirs, to the Said Wm Willet and his heirs for ever. I witness thereof: I have hereunto Set my hand and Seal this nineteeth day of June and in the yeare of our Lord one thousand Six hundred and Seventy Seven.
>
> Ffinlow Mackwilliam
>
> Signed, Sealed, and Delivered
> in the presence of us
> This nineteeth day of
> .....
> Wm White
> Ed Brashorton
>
> Acknowledged in open Court
> June the 19th, 1677 by Ffinlow Mackwilliam
> to be his reall act and deed to Wm Willet
>
> Recorded July the 5th, 1677 Teste: Jno Washbourne"
> (AccCoLand 1676-1690, page 57)

Ffinlow Mackwilliam gave also gave a "Bill of Sale" dated June 19, 1677, to Willett.

"To all Christian People to whom this present writing shall come, I Ffinla Mackwilliam of Hunting Creek in the County of Accomack, Send greeting in our Lord God Everlasting. Know yee that I, the Said ffinla Mackwilliam, for several good and Lawfull Considerations me hereto in ... doe hereby alien, grant, bargain, sell, enfeoff, deliver, Confirme, assigne and set over unto William Willet of the County aforesaid and his heirs forever a certain tract of Land lying and being at Hunting Creek in the County aforesaid containing ffouer hundred acres (as it is more particularly bounded by a certain Pattent bearing Date May the 27th, 1673, granted to the Said ffinlaw Mackwilliam) which ffouer hundred acres with all the woods, waters, Rivers, profits, Comodities and appurtenances whatsoever belonging or appertaining together with all my right, title, interest, Claime or demands whatsoever to have and to hold the Sd Land with the appurtenances to him the Said Wm Willet, his heirs and assigns forever, in as full and ample a manner to all intent and purposes as by virtue of any right, title, Claime, whatsoever I may, might or Doe have, hould, occupy, possess the same and I the Said ffinlaw Mackwilliam and my heirs the Said Land and premises with the appurtenances unto the Said William Willet and his heirs against me and my heirs or the Claime of any person whatsoever shall and will warrant and forever defend by these presents. In witness wereof I have hereto set my hand and Seal this 18th day of November, 1674.

Jno Drummond
George Middleton

Ffinla Mackwilliam
(seal)

Finla Mackwilliam acknowledged to William Willet June the 9th, 1677, to be his real act and deed.

Teste: Jno Washbourne

Recorded July the 5th, 1677"
(AccCoLand 1676-1690, page 57)

The quit claim that Mary Mackwilliam gave to William Willett was also recorded in Court on July 5, 1677; it was witnessed by John Drummond and George Midleton (AccCoLand 1676-1690, page 58).

William Willett had a claim for services rendered during the late rebellion. On February 12, 1678, "Whereas William Willett petitioned this Court showing he had a gun in the time of the late troubles demanded from him by virtue of a warrant from Major Jno: West, which gun was accordingly delivered and afterwards lost in the service, and having made Oath to the same in Open Court, and also testified he never received any satisfaction for the same. Certift is according granted him to the next Assembly" (Accomack County Wills, Deeds, and Orders, 1678-1682, page 56).

William Willett was entrusted by his community with a major building enterprise. Building a mill was a new enterprise on the Shore. The earliest mention of a mill on the Shore was in 1674 when "Wm Spencer and Robt Widgen petitioned for land where they where building a water mill" in Northampton county (Crowson, page 88). At this time, cattle, sheep, swine and tobacco where the most common forms of wealth. Evidently, the local landowners had encouraged William Willett and George Middleton to extend their

partnership in the plantation to a partnership in the construction and operation of a grist mill. An place down stream on the southern boundary of the Willett-Middleton plantation was deemed as a suitable location for a mill. Since the site on the branch divided the lands of Richard Hill and John Cary it was necessary to acquire title to a sufficient area on which to build the mill. To encourage and support the building of a mill, Richard Hill gave the necessary land on his side of the branch to the partnership in the summer of 1678.

> "Know all men of these presents that I, Richard Hill, of Hunting Creek in ye Countie of Accomack doe freely give unto Wm Willet and George Middleton Both of the Same Countie and place one acre of Land to build a water mill upon and being upon the South Side of the branch that parts the Land of John Cary and mine at or near the low bridge where now the high way lyes in Drakes Neck to them their heirs, Exrs, Admrs, or assigns so long as they or any of them shall keep a mill or any part of a watermill repairable there and if the Said water mill does go to decay and not able or willing to repair the Same again in sume convenient time then ye acre of Land be returned to ye Donor again or his heirs or his assigns.
>
> With my hand and seal this 19th May 1678 Richard Hill
>
> May the 16th 1681
> Acknowledged in open Court by Capt Richard Hill as his
> Reall Act and deed to Wm Willett and George Middleton.
>
> Test: Jn Washbourne
>
> Recorded May ye 26th 1681"
> (AccCoDeed 1676-1690, page 260)

The John Cary Land referred to was northwest of the present north mill pond. Drake's Neck was patented to Richard Hill in 1666 as 1,000 acres lying between the two branches of the south fork of Hunting Creek.

In order to built a mill, a mill pond to contain enough water to run the water wheel of the mill was a necessity. Since the original bounds of patents lay on the natural divisions of streams and creeks, and any mill pond would flood both sides of a stream, it was necessary to purchase the land on the north side of the branch. Perhaps John Cary sold it for a nominal sum. At any rate, John Cary gave a "Bill of Sale" to William Willett and George Middleton for two acres of land on the north side of Drake's Neck at Hunting Creek.

> "Know all men to whom the presents may come that I, John Cary, for a valuable Consideration in hand Received, doe hereby...of I have Sold, and delivered unto William Willet and George Midleton two acres of Land being at the foot of the horse bridge bounding on Drakes Neck, which Land is to runne up and down the branch as occasion may thinks fit for the better accomodation of the building of a Mill which Land I doe war-

rant to the Said Willet and Midleton these Eyes or asigns from me and my heirs, as witness my hand this 16th day of December, 1678.

John Bagwell (his mark)
Wm Davis John Cary

Acknowledged in open court
December the 16th, 1678, by Jno Cary to be his act and deed
to William Willet and George Midleton

Teste: Jno Washbourne

Recorded Ober the 31th, 1678"
(AccCoLand 1676-1690, page 134)

The mill must have been constructed and in operation by the summer of 1679. The mill would have been a focal point for the landowners of the Hunting Creek area. Mondays was Court day. Tuesdays and Fridays were grinding days at the mill. The local landowners would bring their grain to the mill and await their turn to have the grain ground. While awaiting their turn, they would visit among themselves, and perhaps have a sip or more of the cider which was also produced at the mill. In later years, each landowner would have his own personal cider mug sitting on a beam in the mill. Perhaps this tradition began immediately after the mill went into operation. It would be a break from the harsh routine of servitude for the indentured servants to accompany their master to the mill. For one day or at least half a day, clearing the land, planting the crops, or bringing in the crops could be set aside.

"The establishment of water mills for grinding grain had been encouraged for some time and as settlements moved northward new mills where built. A great deal of ingenuity was involved in making ponds with artificial waterfalls to run the machinery in this almost level country. The law required a mill dam to be twelve feet thick and any road that touched the pond had to be thirty feet wide. The mills were usually built near the heads of the main branches of the principal creeks, and signs of some early ponds can still be seen" (Turman, pages 67 and 68). "Since the branches flowing into navigable streams were dammed to raise the water level enough to get power to turn the mill stones, and such branches were often boundary lines for land, legislation was necessary for a potential mill builder to get land on both sides of the stream. If a mill was considered necessary, a man who desired to build one on his own land on one side of the creek could buy an acre on the opposite side at a price agreed upon by arbitrators if the owner hesitated to sell it. When the mill ceased to exist, this acre reverted to the original tract. The purchaser was required to give bond to start the mill within one year and finish it within three years after purchase of the land and to operate the mill as a public utility. Every customer was to have his grain ground in turn without letting one take another's place in line. The toll by weight of the grain was one-eight part of wheat and one-sixth part of Indian corn" (Turman, page 95).

"After a permit was issued for a mill on any branch, no mill could be erected upstream from it nor within a mile below it. In this way the water supply was protected as well as the business of the man who invested his money in a mill. A public road was maintained to each mill from the nearest highway. Grain was transported on horseback, with half of one man's supply hanging on each side of the horse cart and sometimes by men carrying it on their backs. Grinding day was a social event for apprentices who were fortunate enough

to be sent to the mill, as well as for small farmers and tradesmen who chose to take their own grain. Although every man put his grain in line when he arrived and moved up in turn, friends had an opportunity to gather in little groups to exchange opinions and gather news" (Thurman, page 96).

1680 was a busy year for William Willett. He evidently had decided to end the partnership arrangement in the plantation. Since hard money was always in short supply, it was necessary to engage in some exchanging of titles to the various land holdings which they owned, either jointly or singlarly. Bridget Middleton and Elizabeth Willett were sisters and Finla Mackwilliam, their father, had land holdings which he granted to each at their marriage. This close relationship on one part, and their partnership on the other part, led to the necessity to clarify title to their respective land holdings.

William Willett gave an "assignment" and Elizabeth Willet a "quit claim" to George Middleton concerning the 400 acres to the west of the Mill and adjacent to the 400 acres owned by the partnership. This gave George Middleton sole ownership of 400 inland acres.

"To all Christian People to whom these present writing shall come: I Willm Willet of Hunting Creek in the County of Accomack Sent greeting in our Lord God everlasting. Know ye that I ye sd William Willet for severall good and Lawful Considerations...thereto doe hereby Alien, Grant, bargain, Sell, enfeoffe, deliver, Confirm, Assigne and set over unto George Middleton of ye County aforesaid and his heirs forever, a certain tract of Land lying and being in Hunting Creek in the County aforesaid, containg ffouer hundred acrer as it is now particularly bounded by a certain Patent bearing date May ye 27th, 1673, granted to Ffrancis Mackwilliam, and by him ye sd Mackwilliam made over to William Willet, bearing date the Sixth of June in ye yeare of our Lord God, 1677, and from him the Said William Willet to ye sd George Middleton by this present conveyance bearing this 17th day of January, 1680, with fouer hundred arces with all ye woods, waters, rivers, profits, Comodities, and Appurtenances together with all my right, hold, interest, claim, or demand whatever. To have and to hould ye~sd Land with ye appurtenances to him the Sd George Middleton, his heirs and assigns forever, in as full and ample manner to all intents and purposes as by virtue of any right, title, claim, whatsoever I may, might, or could have, hold, occupy or possess ye Same, and I ye Sd Wm Willet my heirs ye Sd Land and...with ye appurtenances unto ye Sd George Middleton and his heirs, against me and my heirs or ye claim of any person or persons whatsoever shall and will warrant and forever defend by these presents. In witness hereto Set my hand and Seal this 17th day of January 1680.

Signed, Sealed and Delivered Wm Willet

January ye 18, 1680

Acknowledged in open Court by Willet as his
Reall act and deed to George Middleton

Recorded January ye 20th, 1680 Jn Washbourns"

For some reason it was necessary for William Willett to reaffirm the deed which he had given to George Middleton the day before.

> "Know ye men of by these presents, that I William Willet of ye County of Accomack do hereby assign, and Set over, give, grant and deliver unto George Middleton of the same County and his heirs forever, all my estate Right, title and interest to this present Patent, and the land therein contained and the same shall warrant against me and my heirs, to him ye George Middleton and his heirs forever. In witness wereof I have set my hand and Seale this Eighteenth day of January, one thousand, Six hundred and Eighty.
>
> January ye 18th, 1680 Wm Willet (seal)
>
> Acknowledged in open Court by Wm Willet as his Reall act and deed to George Middleton"
> (AccCoDeed)

Since Virginia law recognized the dower rights of a wife in land which was held in common, it was necessary for Elizabeth Willet to relinguish her dower rights in this property.

> "Know all men by these present that I, Elizabeth the wife of William Willet of Hunting Creek in ye County of Accomack doe hereby...release, and forever quit claim unto George Middleton and his heirs forever, all my estate right, title, interest, Dower right and title of Dower and third at Common Law of my fouer hundred acrer of Land lying in Hunting Creek in ye County aforesaid...

Thus, William Willett gave a clear title to George Middleton for the 400 acres that he had acquired from his father-in-law, Finla Mackwilliam, in 1677. George Middleton exchanged a "Bill of Sale" on the same date to William Willet for his share in the copartnership of the plantation. Since William Willett only had an interest and right to 200 acres of this property, it would be reasonable to assume that the copartnership of Willett-Middleton had developed their joint plantation, and the soley own plantation of William Willett had been more neglected. Also, the tract acquired by Willett had better access to a shallow creek than did the more inland patent. This was an important factor in the value of land until well after the colonial period.

> "To all Christian People to whom these presents shall come: I George Middleton of Hunting Creek in ye County of Accomack send greeting in our Lord God everlasting. Know ye, I ye Sd George Middleton for full and valuable consideration to me in hand paid by William Willet of ye county aforesaid, ye receipt whereof I hereby acknowledge, doe Alien, grant, bargain, Sell, enfeoffe, deliver, confirm, assign, and Set over unto ye Said William Willet his heirs forever, all ye piece and par-

cell of Land Situate in Hunting Creek in ye County aforesaid, of ye Same is moore particularly bounded or intent to be bounded, lay'd out, and specified in a certain pattent bearing date of ye 9th day of October, 1664, granted to William White containing by estimation 400 acres and by him ye Said William White sold to Arthur Robins and made over by a certain Conveyance bearing date the 14th of May, 1669, and by him ye Said Arthur Robins sold to Teige Anderson, and made over by a certain conveyance bearing date the tenth of December, 1669, and by him ye Said Teage Anderson sould to William Willet and George Middleton and made over by a certain conveyance bearing date September 30th, 1671, and from him ye Said george Middleton to ye Said Wm Willett by this present conveyance; and all ye records of Accomack Couty, with all ye woods, waters, Rivers, profits, Comodities, and appurtenances whatsoever thereunto belonging or apperatining together with all my right, title, Interest, claim, and demand whatsoever to have and to hold ye Said Land with ye appurtenances to himye Said William Willet and his heirs and assigns forever in full and ample manner to all intents and purposes by virtue of any right, title, or claim whatsoever, may, might, or could have, hold, occupy, possess, or enjoy the same and I ye Said George Middleton and my heirs, ye Said Lands and premises with ye appurtenances unto ye Said William Willet an his heirs, shall and will warrant and forever defend...present in witness whereof I have hereunto Set my habd and Seal this seventh day of January in ye yeare of ye Lord God one thousand, six hundred and eighty.

George Middleton

(AccCoLand 1676-1690, page 246)

Thus, William Willett acquired a clear title to the whole of the 400 acquire patent that had been originally granted to William White in 1667. This became the main Willett plantation, and is where William lived and died (Whitelaw, pages 1079-1080).

The Virginia General Assembly of March 1680 had received instructions from England to designate one port of entry in each county, and enacted a law providing for a town of 50 acres in size to be laid out in each county. "The land was to be purchased by the Virginia Government and surveyed into lots of one half acre each. All tobacco shipped from a county was to be loaded at this town and all goods imported for sale in the county was to be unloaded here. In this way export and import duties could be more easily collected. Thus, the prescribed town wa called a port of entry" (Turman, page 83).

"A site between the two forks of Onancock Creek was purchased from Charles Scarburgh to be a port of entry for Accomack County" (Turman, page 83). Originally, the new town was called Port Scarburgh and a little later Onancock Town. A Courhouse and a church were erected on or near the present Public Square between Market and King streets.

By 1680, William Willett was about 35 years of age. He had been a miller at least 2 years, and most likely was a sheriff or sheriff's deputy about 1680. Both occupations are attested to in the court records for 1680. Evidently, William Willett had been accused of using "light" weights and measures in the course of his business as miller.

> On October 20, 1680, "Whereas William Willett Petitioned ye Court that he could not have his weights and measures tryed by ye weights and measures provided for ye use of ye County and the Court, understanding ye weights and measures are yet at Coll Southy Littleton's Plantation, into whose custody they were formerly remitted. The Court doe order that ye Sd weights and measures be by the overseer of Coll Sou: Littleton's Estate forth and deliver into ye custody of Majesties' Coll Scarburgh for ye use of ye County" (Accomack County Wills, Deeds, and Orders, 1678-1682, page 182).

On November 19, 1680, William Willett, age about 35 yeare, gave testimony that he had searched the house of John Betts by a warrant from Captain William Custis, a Justice of the Peace, for Accomack County. George Johnson had alleged that several of his possessions had been taken illegally taken by Betts. Upon inspection of a chest at Johnson's, the allegation was found to be true. This type of search would most likely be made by a county sheriff or deputy.

One minor problem remained as a result of the exchanging of land between Willett and Middleton. Middleton had built a new house on the partnership land before the decision to trade his interest in the 400 acres for the Finlay Mackwilliam patent. There must have been a verbal agreement concerning this "new" house in 1680; however, in 1681 the agreement concerning the Middleton homestead was reconfirmed by deed.

> "This Indenture made this 16th Day of December, 1681, of my 32d yeare of his Majesties Raine between William Willet of Accomack County in Virginia of one party and George Middleton of the Same place of the other party. Witnesseth that ye Sd William Willet for divers considerations him hereunto proving, hath given, granted, enfeoffed and confirmed and doe by these presents give, grant, enfeoffe and confirm unto ye Said George Middleton and his heirs forever a certain parcell of Land containing fower acres situated in hunting Creek being part of my Bevement; whereon I now live and near ye dwelling house of the Sd George Middleton where he now lived; that is to Say//two acres above and two acres below the new dwelling house of the Sd Middleton in all foure acres. To have and to hold ye Said foure acres of Land with all that is thereon and its appurtenances unto ye Sd George Middleton his heirs and assigns forever...insaning consideration ye William Willet my heirs and ye my heirs of my successors or survivors of them shall be from henceforth stand and be released of ye four acres of Land with appurtenances and every part thereof to ye only use and behalfe of George Middleton and his heirs forever in witness of ye truth I have hereunto set my hand and Seale ye day and yeare above written.
>
> William Willet
>
> December 16th, 1681
> Acknowledged in open Court by William Willett
> as his Reall act and deed to George Middleton
>
> Test: Jno. Washbourne

Recorded January 3rd, 1681"
(AccCoDeed, page 292)

On January 3, 1682, William Willett brought action for a debt due him from William Onorton. William Onorton brought a countersuit claiming that Willett had weighted out Indian Corn using "light" measures and weights. In a strange turn of seventeenth century justice, both defendant and plaintiff were fined 500 pounds of tobacco, Willett for using light weights, and Onorton for dealing with a miller who he suspected of using light weights without bringing the accusation before the Court. William Willett's standing in the community does not seem to have been tarnished by this episode.

William Willett was evidently intent on enlarging the operation of the watermill. The original mill pond had only contained 3 acres of pond, possibly less. In the flat country of Accomack County, this was certainly insufficient to run a mill for more than a few hours. The original mill would have been rather small with a small dam and a small mill pond. Today, at Drummond Mill Pond, there can be seen a small dam upon which one of the Willett Mill's stood. Judging from the size of the mill pond behind this dam, it would most likely have been the 2d Willett Mill which was built upon this dam. Willett began acquiring the necessary land to enlarge the mill operation by purchasing additional land from John Cary.

"To all Christian People to whom these presents Shall Come: I John Cary of Hunting Creek in ye County of Accomack in the Colony of Virginia Send Greetings in our Lord God Everlasting. Know ye that I, the Said John Cary for a full and valuable consideration to me in hand paid by William Willet of the same place and County, the receipt whereof and hereby acknowledged doe alien, grant, bargain, Sell, Enfeoffe, deliver, Confirme, assign and Set over unto him the Said William Willet and his heirs forever, a certain parcell of Land being part of ye Divident whereon I now dwell, situate in Hunting Creek in the County aforesaid with Said Divident I hould by virtue of a certain Pattent granted to me bearing date Febr ye 28th anno Domini 1663, which Sd parcell of Land is bounded and distinguished in form and manner as follows viz. in ye Southwestward Side on and bounded with a Salt water Creek which divides between the Sd land and a certain divident granted to Wm Gowres, and from the Sd Creek on the Southeastward Side by the freshwater Creek where the Sd Willett mill stood, and on the northwestward side by a line of marked trees wch sd Line divides between ye sd parcell of Land and the divident whereon Finla Mackwilliam now dwells and so running along the Line from the high water mark forescore and five poles to a certain Pine now standing on the side of the brow of the Said branch whch Sd Pine is one of the marked trees in the Said Finla line, the Said parcell of Land within the bounds about containing by estimation about Eight or ten acres, be it more or less, it is thus bounded, limited, and distinguished which Said Land with all the woods and rivers, profits, Comodities, and appurtenaces whatever thereunto belonging or in any wise appertaining together with all my right, title, interest, claime, and demand, whatsoever to have and to hold the Said Land with the appurtenaces to him the Sd William Willet, his heirs and assigns forever in as full and ample manner to all intents and purposes

as by virtue of any right, title, or claim whatever I may, might, or could have, hould, occupy, possess or enjoy the Same and I the Said John Cary and my heirs, Executers, Admrs, the Sd Land and premises with the appurtenances unto him the Said William Willet and his heirs, Executs, adm., and assigns forever against me, my heirs, Executs, adm., or any claim, right, or title, trouble or molestation of any person or persons whatsoever Shall and will warrant and forever defend by these presents in witness whereof I have hereunto Set my hand and Seale this 4th day of Ffebruary, one thousand Six hundred, Eighty and five.

his mark
John Cary
(the Seal)

Signed, Sealed and delivered
in the presence of
Ffrancis Ayres
John Ayres, Junr

March the 9th, 1685

Acknowledged in open Court by John Cary
as his Reall act and Deed to William Willet.

Tes: Jno Washbourne

Recorded March ye 15th, 1685"
(AccCoLand 1676-1690, page 419a and 419b)

It was necessary for Elizabeth Cary to relinguish her dower rights.

"Know all men by these presents, that I, Elizabeth the wife of John Cary of Hunting Creek in ye County of Accomack in Virginia, doe hereby do hereby dismiss, release, and forever quit claim unto William Willet and his heirs, executors, adms, and assigns, forever all my estate right, title, interest, dower right and title of Dower, and thirds at common Law, of in and to a certain piece of Land situate in Hunting Creek being part of the divident I now dwell upon and being by estimation about Eight or ten acres of Land from a certain marked Pine which now stands on ye Side of ye Row of the Branch distant from the Mill dam end neare about 200 yards from the Sd Pine down to the Creek all that part and parcell of Land between Finla Mackwilliams line and the creek or branch Southwestward from the Sd marked pine, Soo that neither I the Sd Elizabeth nor any claiming from, by or under me Shall or will at any time hereafter claim, challegne or demand any Dower right or title of Dower, or thirds at common Law of in or to ye said Land or any part or parcell thereof but of and from all actions of Dower right, title, or interest Shall be, will be excluded and forever debarred. By these presents in witness therof, I have set my hand and Seal this 4th day of Ffebuary, 1685.

(the mark of)
Elizabeth Cary

March ye 9th, 1685

Acknowledged in open Court by Elizabeth Cary Lawfull
wife of John Cary as her free Reall voluntary act
and Deed to William Willet

Recorded March ye 15th, 1685"
(AccCoLand 1676-1690, page 419b)

In 1685, something had happened. In the previous two records, the water mill is spoken of in the past tense. Perhaps, a "big gust" took away the mill; and perhaps, George Middleton did not want to invest the time and money in a reconstruction. In the bill of sale, below, the mill is spoken of as "formerly built," and in John Cary's deed, above, he describes a point in the deed as "where the said Willett mill stood." Normal usage would have described the mill as "standing" so possibly something had happen to the mill in the fall of 1684 which caused it to be destroyed. For whatever reason, William Willet and George Middleton ended their partnership as is evidenced by the following series of records.

"To all Christian People to whom these presents Shall Come; I George Midleton of Hunting Creek in Ye County of Accomack in the Collony of Virginia, Send Greeting in our Lord God everlasting. Know ye that I, the Said George Middleton, for full and valuable consideration to me in hand paid by William Willet of ye place and County aforesaid, confirm, assigne and Sett over unto the Said William Willet anf his heirs for ever, all that part, inpart, right and title that I have in and to a certain watergrist Mill which Said Mill was formerly built in Copartnership by ye Sd Willet and Ye Sd Middleton, upon one of ye branches of Huntin Creek aforesaid, with all ye Land, woods, waise waters, head waters, mill dam, Mill pooles...waies, Easements, profits...comodities, and appurtenances whatever thereunto belonging or any way appertaining together with all my right, title, interest, claims, and demands whatsoever. To have and to hold Ye Sd Mill with Ye appurtenances to him ye Sd William Willet, his heirs, and assigns, forever in as full and ample mannerto all means and purposes as by virtue of any right, title, or claims whatever I may, might or could have, hold, occupy, possess, or enjoy, the Same and I the Said George Middleton and my heirs, the Said Mill and premises with ye appurtenances unto ye Sd William Willet and his heirs agst me and my heirs Shall and will warrant forever defend by these presents in witness whereof I have hereunto Set my hand and Seale this 9th day of August, 1685.

September ye 1st, 1685 George Middleton

Acknowledged in open Court by George Middleton
as his Reall act and Deed to William Willet

Test. Jno Washbourne

Recorded September ye 5th, 1685."
(AccCoLand 1676-1690, page 407a).

Bridget Middleton was required to relinguish her dower rights to clear the title to the watergrist mill.

"Know all men by these presents that I ye Sd Bridget, the wife of George Middleton, of Hunting Creek in ye County of Accomack in Virginia, doe hereby...release forever all right, title, interest, Dower right, and title of Dower and thirds at common Law of in and to a certain water Grist Mill at or upon one of ye Branches of Hunting Creek aforesaid, Soe that neither I, ye Said Bridget, nor any claiming from, by or under me, Shall or will at any time hereafter claime, challegne, or demand any Said Mill or any part or parcell thereunto belonging or any ways appertaining out of and from all action of Dower right, title, or interest, Shall and will be excluded and forever delivered by these presents in witness whereof I have hereunto Set my hand and Seale this 31th day of August, 1685.

her mark
Bridge t Middleton

September ye 1st, 1685

Acknowledged in open Court by Bridget Middleton
as her free and voluntary act and Deed to William Willet

Test: Jno Washbourne

Recorded September ye 5th, 1685
(AccCoLand 1676-1690, page 407b)

After seven years, the partnership of Willett-Middleton was ended. If the assumption that the original grist mill of 1678 had been destroyed is correct, then Willett was engaging in a major undertaking by not only rebuilding the former mill, but at th same time enlarging the whole operation. William had evidently decided to enlarge the watergrist mill operation, because as seen previously, he purchased from John Cary 8 to 10 more acres of land for the purpose of building a larger millpond. This would be the first step in increasing the efficiency of the new mill. One requirement for a successful mill was a large millpond to store the naturally running stream water into a pond large enought to turn the mill water wheel for a whole day. Mill days were Tuesday's and Thursday's, if the recent past is a reflection of the distant past.

On April 7, 1685, William Willett, about 40 years old, gave a deposition of tobacco owned by Mr. Ffrancis Lee. The suit was brought by Ffrancis Lee in behalf of John Jeffreys of London and Company, Merchants, against Timothy Cole (or Coe). On September 1, 1685, William Willett was bought into Court by Mr. Adam Michael. Evidently, Willett had bought cattle in good faith by a bill of sale from John Hanning. However, the cattle were not legally Hannning's and Willett had to return to Mr. Adams cattle of like age.

Other things were happening in 1685 in old England. Charles II died, and his brother James II was crowned King. However, James was an unpopular king, and sentiment grew against him in favor of his eldest daughter Mary and her husband, William, the Prince of Orange. In 1688, William landed on English soil, and on 5 Nov 1688 arrived in London with a large army of English and Dutch soldiers. King James fled to France, and a whole new wave of immigrants who had followed his fortunes, known as Jacobites, removed themselves into exile.

In 1687, Finla Mackwilliam died. His will is extracted below.

> Will of Finla Mackwilliams dated March 25, 1687; probate November 16, 1687: To his sons, Fenla and Overton, the plantation where I now live, being 400 acres.
>
> Bequests to daughters Sarah, Patience, sons to be of age 19 before receiving their inheritence.
>
> Daughters, Patience and Sarah to remain with their mother until their marriage.
>
> Other bequests to daughters Margaret Litchfield, Elizabeth Willett, and Anne Scott of 12 pence as their portion of his estate.
>
> Bequest to George Middleton, 12 pence, as a portion for his deceased wife.
>
> Wife to have plantation during her widowhood.
>
> Overseers: Colonel John West, Captain Richard Hill, and John Drummond. Witnesses: John Ayres, Thomas Riley, and John Cary, Jr.

It would seem that William Willett was still a deputy or minor court official in 1688. On April 2, 1688, he was brought into court by the Attorney General for causing to be added to the county tithable list falsely. However, William Willett admitted his error and stated that he had intented only the public good, and the case was dismissed upon Willett paying the charges of the Court for the trial.

In his will of January 18, 1689, John Arew appointed James Truet as his executor with the advice of Colonel John West and William Willett (Nottingham, page 14).

William Willett made a complaint against Christopher Thompson (the reason for the complaint is not given, but it would most likely be one of debt due to Willett as miller). However, on December 17, 1689, Willett did not appear in Court and the case was dismissed.

"Pirates were operating in the Eastern Shore area as well as in other Virginia waters. At least one raid had been made on Smith's Island in which enough cattle belonging to John Custis II were slaughtered to victual the pirate ship. Little could be done by the militia to protect the islands but the General Assembly had ordered the militias in Northampton and Accomack counties to be on call to drive off any pirates who attempted to land on the shores of any of the creeks" (Turman, page 87).

William Willett witnessed the will of John Abbot on November 7, 1694, along with Roger Ternall, and Thomas Riley.

In the will of Thomas Teackle dated June 20, 1695, (probated February 19, 1695/6) William Willett is appointed to the guardianship of Catherine Teackle (Nottingham, page 20).

William Willett witnessed the will of his neighbor John Cary on February 6, 1695, along with Edward Burman and John Gosle (Nottingham, page 20).

Between the plantation (A101) and the water grist mill, William Willett must have been growing more prosperous, because in 1696, he could purchase 180 acres at Drake's Neck on Hunting Creek from Francis and Sarah Ayres. This purchase adjoined his land (A101) on the south and gave him ownership of the western end of Drake's Neck and all the land around his mill, and became the main Willett ancestral home for the next 100 years. The deed of sale from Francis Ayres to William Willett is given below.

"To all Christian people to whom these presents shall come, I Francis Ayres of Hunting Creek in ye County of Accomack in the Colony of Virginia send Greeting in our Lord God Everlasting. Know ye that I, Francis Ayres, for a full and valuable consideration to me in hand paid by William Willet of the same place and County Millar the receipt whereof I doe hereby acknowledge do alien, grant, bargain, sell, enfeofe, deliver, confirme, assigne and set over unto the Said William Willet and his heirs for ever a certain Tract of Land containing by estimation one hundred and eighty acres Lying and being at the head of Hunting Creek in the County aforesaid commonly called and Known by the name of Drake's Neck bounded on the Northern and Southern Sides by two running branches and one westward side by the conjoining of the sd branches with the head of Hunting Creek where the sd Willett hath a Grist Mill now standing and on the Eastward Side by a Line of marked Trees dividing it from the other part of the Tract or divident of Land, one thousand acres granted to my Grandfather Richard Hill (deceased) by a certain Patent bearing date November the 9th, 1666; the sd one hundred and eighty acres being part of two hundred acres give and beqeaved to me and my heirs for ever by ye sd Richard Hill (deceased) by his last Will and Testament which sd one hundred and Eighty acres of Land being thus bounded, Limited and distinguished but more or less within the bounds as it is afore described with all the woods, waters, rivers, profits, commodities and appurtenances whatsoever thereunto belonging or any wise appertaining together with all my right, Title, claime and demand whatsoever I may, might or could have thereunto, to him the sd Willet and his heirs. To have and to hould the sd Land with the appurtenances is for Ever in as full and ample manner to all intents and purposes as by virtue of any right, Title or claime whatsoever I may, might or could occupy, hould or possess or enjoy ye same. And I, the sd Francis Ayres, and my heires the sd Land and premises with ye appurtenances unto ye sd William Willet and his heirs or assigns against me and my heirs or any person or persons whatsoever claiming from by or under me, will warrant and forever defend by these presents in witness whereof I have heare unto set my hand and fixed my seale this 7th day of January, 1696.

Signed, Sealed and delivered
in ye presence of us
Tho: Bushell
Christopher Thomson

Fran: Ayres
ye Seal

January ye 7th, 1696
The within written acknowledged in open Court of Accomack

County by Francis Ayres as his Reall Act and Deed to William Willet

Teste: Jno Washbourne, Cl Cur

Recorded the Janry the 10th, 1696"
(AccCoDeed 1692-1715, Part 1, page 137)

"Know all men by these presents that I, Sara the wife of Francis Ayres of Accomack Countie, doe hereby remiss, release and forever quit claime to William Willet of ye same Countie and to his heirs for Ever all my estate,title, interest, Dower right and title of Dower and thirds at Common Law of and to one hundred and eightie acres of Land Lying and being at Hunting Creek in Drake's neck soe that neither I the said Sara nor any other claiming from, by or under me shall or will at any time hereafter Claime, challenge or demand any Dower right or Title of Dower or thirds at Common Law of in or to ye sd Land or any part or parcell thereof but of and from all action of Dower right, Title or Interest shall and will be excluded and for ever debarred by these presents. In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seale this 7th day of January anno Dom., 1696.

Signed, Sealed and delivered
in the presence of us
Tho: Bushell
Christopher Thomson

Sarah S. Ayres
ye Seal

The above written acknowledged in open Court of Accomack County January the 7th, 1696, by Sarah Ayres Lawfull wife of Francis Ayres as her free Reall and voluntary act and Deed to William Willet

Teste: Jno Washbourne, Cl Cur

Recorded January ye 12th, 1696"
(AccCoDeed 1692-1715 Part 1, page 137)

For some reason Francis Ayres became indebted to William Willet. Evidently this debt was in part repaid by the conveyance of the above deed to the 180 acres at Drake's Neck. Perhaps there had been several bad seasons of crops, or perhaps the price of tobacco had fallen so that Francis Ayres had been extended credit at the mill over an extended period. Mrs. Sarah Ayres died and her estate was inventoried by Mr. Thomson on January 14, 1696. Perhaps her ill health had forced William Willet to insist on a settlement. Even after the land transfer, Ayres was still indebted to William Willet and he acknowledged this indebtness with the following instrument.

"Know all men by these presents that I, Francis Ayres of the County of Accomack, planter, doe owe and are indebted and stand firmly bound and obliged unto William Willet of the same place, miller, the

full and just sume of Two hundred pounds of good and Lawful sterling money of England due to be paid to the aforesaid William Willet or to his Certaine Attornie, his heirs, Executors or assigns, convenient in ye aforesaid County on Demand to ye which payment well and truely to be paid I doe bind my self my heirs, Executors and Administrators or either of them for the whole and in the whole firmly by these presents sealed with my seal and dated this 7th day of Janry anno Dom, 1696.

The condition of this obligation is such That I, the above mentioned Francis Ayres, have sold, made over and Conveyed unto ye above mentioned Willet and his heirs for Ever a Certaine parcell of Land by Estimation one hundred and Eighty acres or thereabouts lying on the head of Hunting Creek in ye aforesaid County bounded with two fresh waters Branches as by a Conveyance from the aforesd Francis Ayres and his wife, Sarah, part to the said William Willet and his heirs for ever doth more at large sitt forth the bounds of the foresd one hundred and eighty acres of Land. Now so it is that if the above bounded Francis Ayres doe as well for my self, my heirs, Executors, Adminrs, as also for any any Right, Title or Interest or Right of Dower that my wife Sarah hath or may at any time hereafter shall or may Claime to the foresd one hundred and Eighty acres Land above mentioned and for Ever defend and maintaine all such Rights, Titles and priviledges and all other Commodities and Conveniences specified in the foresd Conveyance which I the aforesd Francis and Sarah Ayres hath Conveyed to the foresd William Willet and his heirs for Ever. And I the foresd Fra: Ayres shall and will defend and maintain the foresd Rights of the foresd Land from the Claime of any person or persons whatsoever that shall or may Lay any Claime, Right, Title or Interest to ye aforesd Land, and defend the same for Ever in as ample a manner as is mentioned and sett down in the Conveyance without any pretence whatsoever That then this present obligation to be void and of no effect otherwise to stand in full force power and virtue.

Signed, sealed in presence of
Tho: Bushell
Christopher Thomson

Fran: Ayres
ye seal

The words sterling and may was underlined
in ye original before ye signing
Fran: Ayres

January the 7th, 1696
The within written acknowledged in open Court
of Accomack County by Francis Ayres as his Reall
Act and Deed to William Willet

Teste: Jno Washbourne, Cl Cur

Recorded January the 14th, 1696"
(AccCoDeed 1692-1715 Part 1, page 137)

This 180 acres is what is now known as Drummond's Mill Farm and is presently (1985) owned by John A. Upshur and his wife Evelyn.

William Willet added to his grist mill operation. First came a blacksmith's shop and then a still for making brandy. He may have erected a house on this land, or encouraged his son, Jonathan to build one here. At least about 1730 a fine new house was constructed which had a detached kitchen with brick ends (still survives as the west end of Drummond's Mill Farm House) and a main house which was probably of similar construction (replaced about 1820). Finally, a circular ice house was added (destroyed). This area is midway between the present towns of Tasley and Parksley, and on the west side of the old highway. Leemont is just north about a mile, and Drummond's Mill Farm (previously known as Wiseville) is at the crossroads were the old Willett Mill and lands were located. It was in the 1830s that the mill site became known as Drummond's Mill (AccCoGrantee Index 1692-1715, pages 236-237).

By the turn of the century, William Willett had become a prosperous miller and plantation owner. He began to be a witness to many of the local will, and so he may have begun acting as an notary or justice of the peace. On August 7, 1703, William Willet witnessed the will (probate July 13, 1703) of James Ewell, along with John Drummond, Robert Norton, and Sarah Ryley.

He witnessed the March 20, 1704/05, will of Lieutenant Colonel George Nicholas Hack, along with John Read and Henry Read (Nottingham, page 38).

In the county Rent Rolls for 1704, William was listed as owning 842 acres. William was known to have owned 400 acres (A101) of his main plantation, about 10 to 12 acres of the various purchases from Cary and Hill for the mill pond, and the 180 acres from Drake's Neck; where the surplus 250 acres was is unknown.

He witnessed the July 7, 1713, will of George Parker, Sr., along with John Read, and Henry Read (Wills 1692-1715, page 602).

He witnessed the May 2, 1718, will of William Litchfield, along with Sarah Hurst and Sarah Riley (Nottingham, page 45).

William Willett wrote his will on March 7, 1718/19, (1718 by our dating system) probably at his plantation. He died January 4, 1719/20 (1719). His inventory was completed February 27, 1719; and his will was probated November 4, 1719. He lived to the ripe old age of 71 (no mean accomplishment in that early colonial period). William bequeathed 578 acres to his children, along with individual bequests of a sermon booke, a common prayer book, and other books. This type of inventory of books would indicate a country gentleman who had been well bred and well educated.

> "In the name of God Amen. March ye 17th 1718/19. I William Willet being now in good and perfect health, thank be to God for the Same, but Considering the uncertainty of this life heare on earth, I doe Settle al my worldly matters in Such manner as my desire is they shale be after my decease, doe make this my Last Wil and testament in forme and manner as it is heare under written.
>
> First, I give my Soule into the hand of almighty God, my heavenly father in whom I believe and trust assured by believing that I Shall obtain and receive full pardon of free and free remission for all my Sins through ye merits of Jesus Christ my Savior and redeemer, In whome I believe: and my body to ye earth from whence it was taken to be buryed in Such Christian manner as to my executors here after named shal some meet and Convenyent and for al Such wordly estate as the Lord in Marcy hath lent me, my will and meaning is that the Same

Shale be Implored and allowed in forme and manner as it is in this my will heare after expresses and written and first desire is that al my Just debts that I doe owe be fully paide and Satisfied. Next my will is if my wife shale have these particular use writen of my Estate for her Suport and livelyhood during her natural life (viz) the free use of one halfe of my Plantation where I now dwell, both within the house and without, with halfe the fruits of the trees at her owne dispose and plowe and harrow, Cart and all my horse, harness, and a mare, and a cow, and yearling heifer, and two ewes with the increase of them also, all my Swine and all my poultry, and one bed and furniture, one pot, one fring pan, one Smal Iron Kettle, to pewter dishes, to plate, one porringer, Six Spoons, one brass candlestick, a smoothing iron and heatus, one paire of fire tongs, a great cupboard, a table, and carpet rollaires, one chest, one trunke, and ten pieces of earthen vessels, and one bushel of corne, and one peck of wheats every foure weeks, and one bushel of salt every yeare, al these to be for her use during her natural life and at her decease al to be divided among my children, for She must not give nothing of my estate to any one for I have nothing with her.

Item: I give and bequeue to my son, called Ambrose Willet, one hundred and ten acres of land; it is to say, my Plantation where on I now dwell, to be held and possessed by him and his heirs of his owne body lineal descent, and the heirs of his heirs for ever. I doe also give unto him al my tight cask tho they may want triming.

Item: I give and bequeue unto my Daughter, Elizabeth, one hundred and forty acres of land (that is to Say, next joining to the 110 acres as I have given to Ambros and for division on the Branch there is a Mulberry tree growing-planted for that purpose.

Item: I give unto my daughter, Catherine, one hundred and forty three acres of Land (next adjoining to the 145 acres which I have given to my daughter Elizabeth, which is to be divided from a tree which I have marked by the branch, which Land is to be held and possess by her and her heirs and the heirs of her heirs by leynnyal descent for ever. I doe also give unto her one bed and furniture, and one Iron pot, two pewter Dishes, two plates, one porringer, and six Spoones, and two cows.

Item: I give unto my daughter Anne one hundred and twenty acres of Land which I bought of Ffrancis Ayres to be held and possess by her and her heirs and the heirs of her heirs by Leynnial descent for ever.

Item: I give and bequease unto my son John Willet the other half of the Land which I bought of Ffrancis Ayres (supposed to be Sixy acres) with the Smith's Shop that I have builded there onto be held and possess by him and his heirs and the heirs of his heirs by leynnial descent for ever. I doe also give unto him al the Smith's tooles which belonngeth to the shop, and one bed, and furniture, and two Cows, and one pot, and two pewter dishes, two plates, one porringer, and Six Spoones.

Item: I give unto my grandson, William Willet, my mill and all the tooles and appurtenances that thereunto belonging, and the two Acres of Land which was given to me by Mr. Richard Hill (late of this County) and also the land that I bought of John Cary, Supposed to be twelve acres more or less which mil and land as it is above writen I doe give to him the Sd William and his heirs and the heirs of his heirs to be held

and possest by leynnial descent for ever; my wil and meaning is that my stil(l) Shale be in Joynt interest between my Son Ambros, and his son William, during the life of my son Ambros; but it Shall not be removed of this plantation and at my Son's decease to be wholly my Grandson's William's. And my sermon booke I give to my son Ambros; my common prayer book to my grandson William, and my will is that al the rest of my Books shall be divided betwine my granson William and my three daughters, and my will is that al the rest of my estate and debts due to me which I have not disposed of in this my wil, that it Shal al be equal divided betwine al my children, and I doe by this my wil order that If any or either of my children that I have given Land unto, that It either of them or their heires or the heires of their heires Shall and doe lease or mortgage any part of the land that I have given to he or she, my child, and make a record of alynation of with Same (except it be to one of my sons or their heirs male being Willet by name and blood) that then and in that case the Said land Soe Sould or mortgaged and alynated and a record made of the same that then ye next heir male of my blood shall by virtue of this my will take Sd land as his inheritance for him and his male heires for ever, and now have in noe more to wrigh (write) of this nature I doe constitute and appoint my son Ambros and my grandson William to be my Sole executors to this my last will and Testament.

I do request and desire Francis Young, and Thomas Rily and Francis Ayres and Thomas Simpson, Jnr, if they will please to stand as trustees to see that this my wil be duely ordained and performed and that they or any of them shall one and al cont...in matters relating to this my wil and now having noe more to wright I desire the Lord Jesus Christ to receive the Soule of me, William Willet.

Jacob D. Litchfield William Willet
John Riley
Robert Ternall

The within Last will and Testament of
William Willet dec'd was proven in open Court
of Accomack County by the Oaths of Jacob Litchfield,
John Riley, and Robert Ternall the three witnesses to the
Same. November the 4th, 1719.

Test: Cha Snead.

Recorded November, the 24th, 1719 Cha Snead"
(AccCoProbate 1715-1719, pages 89 and 90)

This will is an interesting example of how attitudes change. In England, at this time, when a father died the law of primogeniture would have caused the whole of the estate to go to the eldest son. However, as Louis B. Wright notes, "The law of primogeniture was never seriously regarded in Virginia, where a father felt he had land enough for all of his heirs..." he often divided his estate (Wright, page 321). "The eldest son, it is true, usually inherited the homestead and the largest portion of land, but younger sons were amply provided with broad acres" (Wright, page 57). This pattern was followed by William Willett

in 1719. The homestead and (most likely) the best or most developed part of the Willett plantation went to the eldest son. The youngest son, John, received a smaller portion of land, but also received the Smith's shop. William left acreage nearly equally divided to his three daughters.

An interesting item in this will is the mention of the still which William left jointly to his eldest son, Ambrose, and his grandson, William, with a prohibition from ever removing it from the Willett property. Such a still was used for bounding the fruits into cider or a brandy. Apples would provide the usual sweet apple cider, an alcoholic cider, and vinegar, depending on whether they were pounded into pulp and pressed or refined in the still.

The inventory of William Willett's estate was completed on February 27, 1719. He left a consideable personal estate. It is interesting to note the self-sufficency of a small plantation which is revealed in an inventory which includes everything from a mould to make shoes (one size fits all!) to a mould for making spoons (there were no forks at this time!).

"An True and perfect Inventory of ye Estate of William Willett, Decd. as was delivered to us the subscribers by Ambrose Willett together with his son William Willett, Executors of ye Last Will and Testament of ye aforesd Willett, Decd. Janry ye 4th, 1719/20.

To: 4 Cows Legesey (Legacy)	5	0	0
To: 4 Cows	5	0	0
To: 6 two yeare olds	4	10	
To: 2 yearlings	0	10	
To: 1 horse	2	15	
To: 14 sheep	2	9	
To: 1 old Cart and wheels	1	0	
To: 1 old Grind stone, Axeltree and winch	0	6	
To: 10 swine	2	5	0
To: 9 shoats	0	9	
To: 2 small mares	1	10	
To: 1 bed wight 6 lbs, bedstead, and furniture Legesey	3	15	10
To: 1 old flock bed and bedstead and furniture	0	15	
To: 1 bed weight 70 lbs, bedstead, and furniture	5	10	
To: 1 sute of Cortanes	0	15	
To: 1 bed weight 62, bedstead, and furniture Legsay	3	16	6
To: 1 oval Table	0	5	
To: 1 small Chest and Lock and kee	0	7	
To: 4 pounds of wool	0	3	4
To: 5 Inden basets	0	1	3
To: 1 Large old table	1	0	
To: 1 Cupboard	3	0	
To: 1 small old Table	0	5	
To: 1 table and Carpet	1	5	
To: 1 small Table	0	8	
To: 1 Cubard, drawer, and Cloath	0	15	
To: 3 Large Chests	1	10	
To: 1 paire shestes and Table Cloath	0	13	
To: 25 Chunk bottels	0	4	
To: 1 paire of spoones moldes	1	0	

To: 9 files, 1 pound and 6 ounces of steel	0	8	3
To: 8 1/2 pounds of nailes	0	3	2
To: 3/4 of a pounds of thread	0	2	6
To: 1 Razer and hone	0	3	6
To: 1 pr of money scales and weights	0	5	0
To: 1 pr of horse flames	0	1	6
To: 1 Cork screw and 2 thimbles	0	1	6
To: 2 pds of pewter	0	2	0
To: 2 Neack Cloths	0	2	6
To: 9 yds and 3/4 of fine Linen	0	14	7
To: 5 yds and a quarter of fine Linen	0	13	1
To: 13 yd's of fine Linen	1	6	
To: 6 1/2 yds of fine Linen	0	13	
To: 6 3/4 of Coase Linen	0	10	1
To: 3 1/2 yds of brown Linen	0	3	6
To: 34 yds of wide Linen	3	13	8
To: 7 yds of Check Linen	0	8	2
To: 2 1/2 of bed tick	0	3	9
To: 3 small combs	0	3	
To: some buttone and allum	0	1	6
To: 2 deer skines and a sheep skine	0	8	
To: 1 Case of bottels	0	10	
To: 14 pds of Rope	0	7	
To: a Old Rope and drume Line	0	1	
To: 1 small saddel	0	3	6
To: 1 sermone book and Common prayer book a Legesey	0	7	
To: parcel of old books a Legesey	0	15	
To: 6 Chairs	0	12	
To: 1 Large table and bench	0	15	
To: 1 Case of pistols and holsters and 2 old swords	0	12	
To: 1 Musket	0	16	
To: 1 small gunn	0	12	6
To: 2 Carbines	0	12	
To: 1 old wipe saw and Crosscut saw and tenent	0	15	
To: 2 old hand saws	0	3	
To: 1 old warmen pan	0	5	
To: 1 large Cattle weight 14 pds	0	4	8
To: 1 small Cattel weight 8 pds	0	2	8
To: 1 small pot weight 18 pds	0	7	6
To: 1 small pot weight 19 pds	0	7	11
To: 1 Large Iron pot weight 58 pds	1	4	2
To: 1 Iron pot weight 37 pds/	0	15	5
To: 2 paire of pot hooks	0	2	6
To: 2 fryen panes	0	5	
To: 2 paire of fire tongs	0	4	
To: 1 old smowen Iron and heaters	0	2	6
To: 1 Small Grid Iron	0	2	
To: 1 Lankhorne and old candle stick	0	1	
To: 44 pds of new pewter	2	15	
To: 42 pds of old pewter	1	15	
To: 1 tin pepper box	0	0	4

To: 2 brass Cattel weight 1 pd	0	1	6
To: 1 belmettle spice martor and pesel wt 4 pds	0	10	
To: 1 pr of Large Stallards	1	3	
To: 1 pr of Large Stallards	0	15	
To: 1 small Stallard	0	2	6
To: 7 pieces of fine Earthen ware	0	10	6
To: 2 small Earthen saucers	0	0	8
To: 2 old sickels	0	1	
To: 2 white Earthen Chambers pots	0	2	
To: 3 pieces of white ware	0	1	6
To: 16 pieces of Redd ware	0	1	8
To: 2 pieces of black ware	0	4	
To: 11 Earthen Cups and porringers	0	5	6
To: 2 stone gogs and 3 cups	0	5	
To: 2 hakels	0	10	
To: 1 stock lock	0	1	
To: 16 pieces of Turned ware	0	8	
To: 5 pagens	0	5	
To: a parcel of Carpenters tooles	1	5	
To: 1 brass Chafen dish	0	2	
To: a parcel of old tools	0	5	
To: a parcel of Coopers tooles	0	5	
To: 2 old planes	0	2	6
To: a pr of shoemakers, pinchers, and nipes knife	0	2	6
To: 1 gun Lock	0	2	6
To: 1 old English gagen Rodd	0	0	6
To: 2 small Runlits	0	3	
To: 24 pds of old Iron	0	2	
To: a pasel of Carpenters tooles, 1 Iron pesel	0	15	6
To: 3 spinnen wheeles	0	8	
To: 1 sadel tree and a Crose	0	2	6
To: a plow and harer and harness	0	16	
To: 3 hides	0	9	
To: a pasel of fodder	1	0	
To: 5 barrels of Indian Corn	2	1	8
To: 6 bushels of salt	0	15	
To: 1 sheat	0	2	6
To: 3 whas	0	1	
To: 3 Iron hooks	0	1	
To: 2 Iron tooth Rakes	0	0	6
To: 1 brandy Still, worm, and head	10		
To: 2 Iron wages	0	4	
To: 1 old Chest and 3 old hoopes	0	5	
To: 1 frame saw	0	1	
To: a pasel of old Casque	2	0	
To: 10 pds polter feathers	0	5	
To: 1 male (mail?) bag	0	1	6
To: 250 pds of Tobbaco	1	5	0
To: 1 small trunk	0	5	
(total) £	108	7	4

The above Estate appraised and Inventoried by us
ye subscribers
Thomas Simpson Jnr.
Francis F. Young
Thomas Riley

The within Inventory and Appraisement of ye Estate of William Willet, decd: Was Recorded Febry ye 27th, 1719.

Pr(oved?) Cha: Snead, Cl. Cur. Com Acck"
(AccCoWills 1715-1729, Part 1, pages 246-249)

It is interesting to note that the brandy still was the most valuable piece of personal property which William Willett owned. It was valued at ° 10 which was twice the value of the next most valuable item on the inventory, 4 cows. The estate included 17 cows, 1 horse, 14 sheep, 10 swine, and 1 old cart and wheels. It seems strange that there was not more horses on the plantation, or more carts, wagons, or other conveyances.

The household furniture included 4 beds, 1 oval table and 3 other tables, 4 chests, 2 cupboards, and 1 rug.

Another item of interest is the spoon moulds, money scales, 44 pds of new pewter, and 42 pds of old pewter. There is no other hint of Mr. Willett being a pewterer. There was a Willett family of pewterers living in London in the late 1600s and one of their sons was Edward Willett who immigrated to Maryland about 1692 (see chapter 14). There has never been any connection between these two families noted in the past. Both families were Anglican. Maybe there is some connection between these families which has not come to light yet since both ancestors were well-to-do and both were pewterers.

William was survived by his wife Anne by 6 years. On November 28, 1725, she wrote her will:

"I give to my grandson, William Willett, my bed as itt stands. I give to my granddaughter, Comfort Conner, a Cow and Calf, a chest, and all my Hose, and all my pewter, and all the rest to be divided between my three daughters. This is my last will and testament.
Witnesses: Jacob Litchfield, and John Melson.

The within noncupative will of Anne Willett decd was proved in open court of Accomack County by the oath of Jacob Litchfield and John Melson the two witnesses to the same, May 4th 1726.

Test: Cha Snead"

(AccCoProbate 1715-1729, page 250).

1. Ambrose: b abt 1680?; in 1719 bequeathed 110 acres by his father and the plantation where his father lived; Ambrose sold the family plantation in 1744 and removed to Worcester County, Maryland; d 1758. See next P.1.1.

2. Elizabeth: b abt 1682?; in 1719 received 145 acres from her father's estate. She must have married a Coner (or Conner) between the time her father mentions her in his will (November 4, 1719) and when James Conner's estate (7 Feb 1720) is administrated by his "brother-in-law", Ambrose Willett. She probably died before Nov 1725, as she is not mentioned in her mother's will. A granddaughter, Comfort Conner, is mentioned. Elizabeth's inheritance passed to her brother, Ambrose. Ambrose sold these 145 acres to Thomas Wise in 1745.

3. Catherine: b abt 1685?; witnessed the will of George Middleton, Sr., on 22 Feb 1715/16; in 1715 inherited 143 acres; m after 1719 Pruitt; d before September 7, 1736, when John Willett is ordered to administer her estate. (AccCoOrders 1731-1736, page 195; WaAccCo, page 84).

4. Anne: b abt 1687?; in 1719 inherited 120 acres from her father which had been brought of Ffrancis Ayres; m after 1719 Thomas Lilliston. In 1788, Thomas Lilliston, Sr., and his wife, now Shady, sold the 120 acres to Revel West; she died after 1760.

1. Thomas Lilliston: b abt 1725; will dated December 8, 1785, probate March 28, 1786.

1. Tully Lilliston: b abt 1750.

2. Thomas Lilliston: b abt 1755.

2. Willett Lilliston: b abt 1725; m before 1751, Esther Bull (Bell) the daughter of Tobais Bull, Sr. (will dated May 4, 1751).

5. John: b abt 1690?; in 1719 inherited 60 acres from his father. This was the other part of the land which had been purchased from Ffrancis Ayres; will June 29, 1762. See next P.1.5.

P.1.1

AMBROSE WILLETT of Accomack County, Virginia and Worchester County, Maryland

Ambrose Willett was born about 1680? He must have been educated on the Shore. More than likely, his father went in with one or more of the neighboring landowners and hired a tutor to teach his sons and daughters. Since none of the homes in the area of Hunting Creek were very large or pretentious, a tutor could be hired and a school held in one of the older mud-and-wattle cottages in the area.

Ambrose must have married a local girl about 1700. However, no record of his wife's name or maiden name has been found to date.

Ambrose worked the family plantation of 400 acres for his father, William. Although the law of primogeniture was customary in old England at this period, Ambrose was not more favored than either his younger brother's or even his two sisters.

Ambrose's son, William, would have been a teenager when the old Mr. Willett died in 1719 because he (William) received the mill and associated acreage which went with it.

In 1719, Ambrose Willett received 110 acres of land from the home plantation (part of A101), and a specific bequest of his father's "sermon booke". He and his son, William, were the executors of his father's will.

Perhaps he supervised the plantation for his sisters. When his sister, Elizabeth, died about 1725, her 145 acres of the old Willett plantation came to Ambrose. In 1725, Ambrose would be growing old; perhaps he tired of the hardwork of running a plantation and left it to be runned by others.

By 1744, Ambrose Willett had removed to Worchester County, Maryland. We do not know what led him to move. The following abstract proves that he considered himself a Marylander. More than likely he moved at an earlier date, sometime between 1725 and 1740.

> "January 30, 1744: Indenture in which Ambrose Willet of Worchester County, in Province of Maryland, sells to Thomas Wise of County of Accomack, Colony of Virginia, "Shipwright" for ° 130, being a tract of land in Accomack County, near the head of Hunting Creek, containing 145 acres of land, being the land bequeathed to certain Elizabeth Willet by the last will and testament of William Willet, deceased, as by said Will it may more at large appear, etc.
>
> Witnesses: Will: Arbuckle, George Drummond, Thomas Teackle.
>
> Recorded the same date."
> (AccCoDeeds 1736-1746, page 441; They Went That Away, page 41).

This was the first sale of Willett property out of the family. Elizabeth's inheritance was the central portion of the old Willett plantation. At a later time, Ambrose sold his own 110 acre inheritance to Thomas Wise. With this sale the last of the patent (which had been issued to Finla Mackwilliam on May 27, 1673, and which he sold to William Willett on 18 Nov 1674) was sold out of the Willett family.

Evidently, Ambrose Willett had sold his Accomack property so that he could increase his Worcester County, Maryland, estate. On November 4, 1744, there was an indenture between Thomas Parramore of Accomack County, Virginia, in the Colony of Virginia, and

Ambrose Willett of Worcester County, Maryland, in the Province of Maryland. Thomas Parramore agreed to sell for 45 pounds money of the Colony of Virginia:

> "... all that tract of land in Worcester County whereafter to be called by the name of Willitt Purchase, the same being part of a larger tract called Parramore's Double Purchase and containing by estimation one Hundred Acres ... bounded to the Northward by land of William Turner, westward by the head line of Parramore's Double Purchase, southward by the land of Hutten Hill and by a creek called Horne Creek ...
>
> Signed: Thos: Parramore
>
> Witness: John Henry and William Lane"
> (Worcester County, Maryland, Land Records A, pages 347-348).

Evidently, Thomas Willett acquired a portion of "Parramore's Double Purchase" on May 14, 1745. Thus, father and son were living side by side in 1745.

Thomas Wise of Accomack County, Virginia, mentioned in his will of September 7, 1764, the land that he had purchased of Ambrose Willett. Wise mentioned as owning and sold 200 acres of land, along with 300 acres which "was part of the land purchased of Ambrose Willett" (Nottingham, page 170). Nothing in the wording of the will or the extract of the sale indicates whether this was the eastern or the western end of the tract. However, since Ambrose inherited 110 acres of the "Plantation where on" his father lived, custom would place this parcell as being on the western end of the plantation. This is simply because the central portion of the Eastern Shore Peninsula was the least favored property for generations. In general, there was a bayside road, and there was a seaside road. Very few roads connected these two roads. Most of the commerce of the area flowed out the shallow creeks in equally shallow draft sailing vessels. These boats would transport the farm produce and home manufactures out to the main ports of the region. Most likely, this would be to Pungoteague. Just as likely, the goods would be shipped direct to Baltimore, Hampton, or Yorktown. There was only a minimum of shipment across or into the central area of the peninsula. Roads were deplorable. At their best they were either muddy or dusty; in some cases they just did not exist. So the logical location for the old Willett homestead would have been on the most western end of the original tract.

On February 5, 1744, Ambrose Willet, George Douglas, John Cord, and William Sheaff, witnessed the will of Giles Jones. Perhaps, Ambrose had returned to Hunting Creek to sell his property. At least, this is the last Accomack County, Virginia, mention of this Ambrose Willett in the records of Accomack County.

Ambrose Willett died between February 1, 1758, and March 10, 1758, in Worcester County, Maryland.

> "In the name of God Amen. I Ambrose Willett of Worcester County in the Province of Maryland being very sick and weak of body yett sound and perfect in Judgment with memory and knowing the uncertainty of this life, I doe here make this my last Will and Testament and first and principaly I recommend my Soul into the Hands of my ever blessed Savior and Redeemer the Lord Jesus

Christ hoping in and through his merits resurrection and Assention perdon of all my sins.

Secondly: I give my body to the earth there to decently buryed abd entered therein and as for my personal and Real Estate after my lawfully debts is paid I dispose of as follows:

Item: I do give and bequeath unto my Son Thomas Willett all that tract of Land including the plantation he now lives on called Parramore's Duble Purchase containing one hundred acres more or less lying on the seaboard side and also what household goods and other things he hath now in his possession to him and his heirs forever.

Item: I doe give and bequeath to my son William Willett the Plantation he now lives on with part of my Land I now live on beginning at a Red Oak Saplin where formerly stood a marked Hickory and thence down the branch to a Stoopin White Oak and thence South until itt intersects with Tobais Peppers line containing one hundred acres more or less and also one Shiling Sterling to him and his heirs and assigns forever.

Item: I doe give and bequeath unto my son John Willett my Plantation I now live on with my Land not yett mentioned and 2 young Stears and one feather bed and some furniture, one Iron pot, one pewter dish, to him and his heirs and Assigns forever.

Item: I give and bequeath unto my Daughter Elizabeth Nicolson one Shilling Sterling to her and her heirs and Assigns forever.

Item: I give and bequeath to my daughter Ann Holland one shilling Sterling to her and her heirs and Assigns forever.

Item: I do give and bequeath unto my Daughter Joyce Bradshaw one young Bull and one small Iron pott to her her heirs and Assigns forever.

Item: I give unto my daughters Ruth and Mary every individual thing of personal Estate nott given or mentioned before to be equally divided between them to them their heirs and Assigns forever and I desire that my Daughters Ruth and Mary may have the Liberty to live on the Plantation and in the house where I now live during their Single life and not to be disturbed during that time.

And I leave and constitute and appoint my son Thomas Willitt to be the whole and Sole Executor of this my last Will and Testament uterly revoking and disannulling all other Wills by me made bearing date before this. In Witness my hand and Seal this twenty first day of february one thousand and seven hundred and fifty eight 1758.

Ambros Willett

Signed Sealed and pronounced and delivered in the presence of us

Eliam Johnson
William (his mark) Pruitt
Moses Mills"

(Worcester County, Maryland, Wills JW2, page 193).

1. Thomas: b abt 1705; he was a soldier in Captain Adam Spence's Company in 1748; administered his brother William's estate in 1772; probably never married; d 1779. See next P.1.1.1.

2. William: b abt 1710; he was a soldier in 1748; d before October, 1771, in Worcester County, Maryland. See next P.1.1.2.

3. John b abt 1710; he was a soldier in 1748; living in 1771. He could not write.

4. Elizabeth: b abt 1712; m before 1758 Nicolson.

5. Ann: b abt 1715; m before 1758 Holland.

6. Joyce: b abt 1720; m before 1758 Brashaw.

7. Ruth: b abt 1722; unmarried in 1758; possibly married before 1779 Robert Slocum.

8. Mary: b abt 1725; unmarried in 1758.

P.1.1.1
THOMAS WILLETT of Worcester County, Maryland

Thomas Willett was born about 1705 in Accomack County, Virginia. Evidently he removed to Worcester County, Maryland, about the same time as did his father (about 1740). Thomas Willett lived on one hundred acres of land beloinging to his father. In 1745, he purchased additional adjoining acreage.

> "May 14, 1745: Indenture between Thomas Nuton of Province of Maryland, Planter, and Thomas Willett of the same place, Planter ... Sells for 20 Pounds money of Maryland ... one Hundred Acres of land part of a Tract of land originally granted to Mr. John Parramore Called Double Purchase ... bounded on Southeast by land of William Turner, northwest to a Spanish Read oak, northeast return.
>
> Signed: Thomas Newton
>
> Witness: William Lane and John Scarborough"
> (Worcester County, Maryland, Land Records A, pages 314-315)

In 1748, he was listed as a sergeant in a list of soldiers commanded by Captain Adam Spence ("Maryland Historical Magazine", volume 1, 1911, pages 193-195).

On October 4, 1771, Thomas Willett submitted an inventory to the Court of his brother William Willett's estate. On November 19, 1772, Thomas Willett submitted the final accounts on the estate of his deceased brother, William Willett.

Sometime before February 20, 1773 (possibly many years earlier), Thomas Willett sold to Parker Selby 50 acres of Willets Addition to Willet Out Leat (Lott), and 25 acres of Parramores Double Purchase (Magruder's Maryland Colonial Abstracts, Volume I, 1772-1777, page 103).

Thomas Willett died between February 13, 1779, and March 13, 1779.

"In the name of God Amen. I Thomas Willett of Worcester County of Maryland being tho the abundant Mercy and Goodness of God tho Weake in Body yet of a Sound and perfect understanding and memory do Constitute this my last Will and Testament and desire it to be Received by all such.

Imprimis: I give the Colt that my mair is with fold with to Elizabeth Holland, daughter of Benjamin Holland and his wife, Molly, and the mair to Benjamin.

Item: I give to Benjamin Holland all the money that is due me from Phillip Quinton and the intrust thereof, the Part of the tract of Land that I have not Sold of that I possess of Parramores Doble Purchas.

I give to William Cowley, Son of Samuel Cowley and Elizabeth his wife and his heirs Lawfull Begotten of his body the Tract of Land Called Willets out Lett and the enlarging and the rest and Residue of my goods Chattels and personal estate after payment of my debts and expence, and unto the said William Cowley, and if the said William Cowley should die without aire, I give to William Slocum, Son of Robert Slocum and Ruth his wife all my lands and Tenements hereditments and I make the said William Cowley and Robert Slocum my hole executor of this my last Will and Testament to see it truly performed in Witness Whereunto I set my hand and Seal this 13 day of february in the year of Lord 1779.

Thomas Willett

Sealed Published and declared Levin Newton
by the above named Thomas Levin Hill
Willett for and as his last Joshua Sturges
Will and Testament in the presence"
(Worcester County, Maryland, Wills JW4, pages 400-401)

P.1.1.2

WILLIAM WILLETT of Accomack County, Virginia and Worchester County, Maryland

William Willet was born about 1700?. He must have lived on the Willett farm and worked at the Willett Mill. Perhaps he was a favorite of his grandfather, because, in 1719, he received as an inheritance the mill and 14 acres. He also received his grandfather's "common prayer booke". Perhaps this is an indication that he had been tutored or schooled at a plantation school.

In the decade of the 1720s, William Willett let the mill fall into decay. The mill had originally built in 1678. It had been either added to or rebuilt in 1685, and probably had stood for the last 35 years without any real repair. By the time another 10 years had been added to its age, it was an old wooden outmoded structure. William must have had difficulty in maintaining the aging mill. A new mill had been built just a couple of miles north in the vicinity of present day Leemont and on what is called the Leemont Branch. Perhaps, competition had cut into his profits. For whatever reason by 7 May 1733 "the mill built

upon the acre of land by William Willett, dec., and George Middleton hath gone into decay" (Land Clauses, Accomack County, Virginia, page 2). This is mentioned in a lawsuit on that date that William brought against Francis Ayres and Scarburgh Drummond for trepass. There had been a reversion clause in the original Richard Hill gift, and perhaps his descendents were trying to reclaim the acreage which Hill had given to William's grandfather, William Willett.

In 1736, William sold the mill and his 14 acres to his uncle, John Willet, whose 60 acres were adjacent to him. The indenture which transfered ownership of the Mill is recorded in the next section. It would be only natural to presume, that since William Willett is represented by an attorney, John Ryley, and is never described as being of Accomack County, although that is the most usual way in which an individual was identified in these deeds, that perhaps William had removed to Maryland, as had his father, Ambrose.

In 1748, he was listed as a sergeant in a list of soldiers commanded by Captain Adam Spence ("Maryland Historical Magazine", volume 1, 1911, pages 193-195).

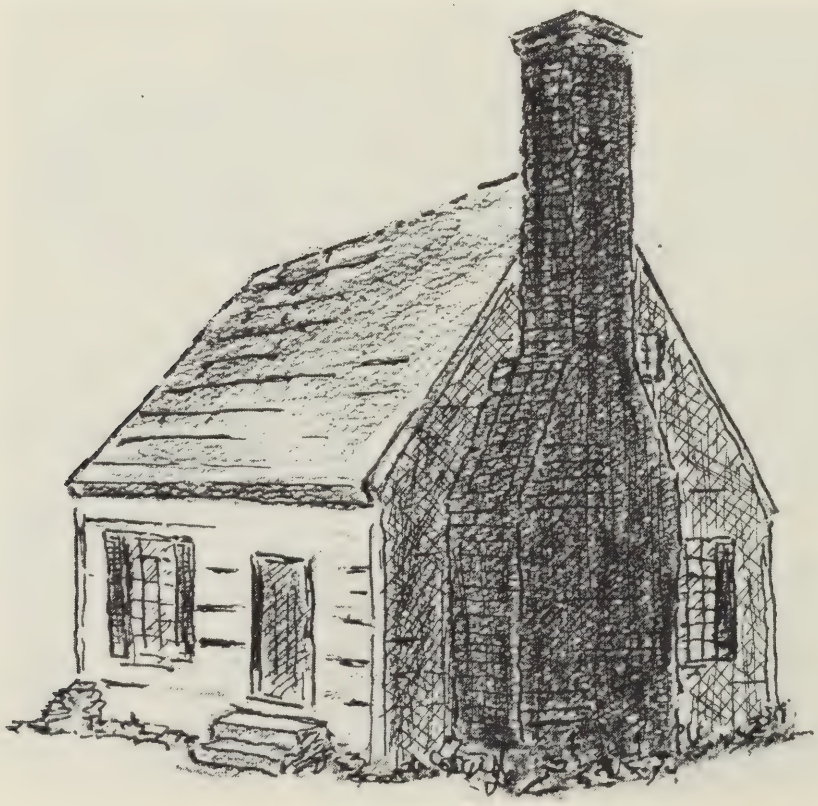
It is unknown if William was married or if he had any children. He died in 1770. John Willett (brother to William) and Joyce Brashaw (sister to William) inventoried his estate in October 30, 1770. His brother, Thomas Willett, administered his estate on October 21, 1772. Nothing in his estate records hint at any descendents.

P.1.5
JOHN WILLETT of Willett's Mill, Accomack County, Virginia

John Willet was born about 1690 and must have grown up on the old Willett plantation to the across the eastern branch of the creek from Drummond's Mill Farm. He was probably educated at either a private planation school or by a tutor. Because of the custom of the more wealthy Virginia planter's, he may even have returned to England to be educated, although this is not very likely.

John probably married a local girl sometime between 1710 and 1720. Her name is unknown, but she may have been an Ayres or Taylor. She is not mentioned in William Willett's will of 1719, but, neither is the wife of Ambrose Willett, and he would have definitely been married before his father's death.

In 1719 he inherited 60 acres from his father. This 60 acres was a part of a 180 acre tract which had been brought by his father in 1696 from Ffrancis and Sarah Ayres; today it is known as Drummond's Mill Farm. He also received the Smith's shop that was his father's. About the this time (1720), John Willett (probably) built the well constructed one room house which survives today as the western third of Drummond Mill Farm house. His father had left a home to his brother, Jonathan, which was just across and a little northeast of the mill. Jonathan may have lived in an earlier house at the blacksmith's shop site, but no trace of any inhabitation on this side of the creek has been found to date (1983). Today, there is attached to the main house an old quarter kitchen which can be dated architecturally from the 1720 era. There is always a slim possibly that it may be a cottage from an earlier period which was reworked into a quarter kitchen at a later date. This supposition is borne out by certain facts discovered by Mr. John Upshur in 1955 when he remodelled Drummond Mill Farm House.



There was evidence of a ladder built into the west wall of the cottage leading to the loft. The cottage had been finished on the exterior and then was lived in while the bare stud walls were still exposed. The unplastered and unfinished interior had, at some point, been whitewashed at least once and pegs were found between the studs and inside the present plastered walls which could have been put there only while the studs were exposed. These pegs most likely were for hanging a coat or utensil. Later the room was finished and plastered covering up the pegs and whitewash.

A detached main hoouse once stood on the east side of the cottage, just above where the main residence is today, but a projecting a little forward of the (today's) main house. This too was most likely built by John Willett sometime after the cottage, possibly about 1730 or 1740. The cottage became the detached quarter kitchen to the new main structure and the two structures served the Willett family for nearly a hundred years.

Sometime around 1810 or 1820, the main Willett house came down. Was it fire? Or neglect by a new owner? Or had it just grown too old to be repaired and maintained? The reason it was destroyed or removed is unknown. The old Willett house was replaced by the present main structure. Eventually, the cottage (or quarter kitchen) were connected to form the present Drummond Mill Farm House. Mr. John Upshur purchased the property in 1955 and began a remodelling which has given the old structure a renascence. The remodelling was not a restoration but a true renascence which has given the old house new life, strenght and vigor. One has only to look on the ruines of Marino just across the mill pond to appreciate the work that has gone into making Drummond Mill Farm House a house for the living.

Mr. John Upshur, the present owner of this property, in some unpublished notes that he made in 1958 has the following to say about the old quarter kitchen.

> "This old Quarter Kitchen may have been built about 1720 during John Willett's ownership, and probably served as the kitchen for an early house whose foundations were recently discovered whilt excavating for a well in the front yard of the present house. It is possible, however, that this old kitchen was originally built as a miller's dwelling, for the records shows that mills were operated at the two ponds bordering the property on the north and south from 1678 to 1937.
>
> The foundations of the original chimney of this old kitchen, still intact under the house, show that it was an ancient chimney (off center about two feet) with a width of six and a half feet, built of over-sized bricks measuring 9 x 3 x 4 1/2 inches. The old kitchen or Miller's house probably looked like the sketch above. A study of its beams and sills during a recent restoration indicate that it could have been built during the early 18th century. Mortises in the overhead beams indicate that there was a door and window on both the north and south sides of the kitchen. Perhaps there were two windows on the east side as shown in the sketch, but there is no proof because the east side was torn down years ago and replaced when the old kitchen became a part of a later house. Mortises in several beams and rafters indicate that steps at the southwest end of the original kitchen led up to a small attic" (private notes of Mr. John Upshur, 1958).

In 1736, John Willett purchased the 14 acres and the mill from his nephew, William Willet, that had been the family mill "also the Millstones, Spindle, and Frog that belonged to

the said Willett's Mill when she was formerly in repair". At this time the mill must have ceased operation. John must repaired and reopened the mill (AccCoGrantee Index 1663-1779, page 7).

"This indenture made the fifth day of June, Anno Dom Seventeen hundred and thirty six, between Willm Willet, son of Ambrose Willet and grandson of William Willet late of Accomack County, deceased, and John Willet, one of the Sons of the said deceased William Willet. Witnessth: that Whereas the Said William Willet, decd, by his last Will and Testament in Writing did devise his Watermill and Land on the other side of the Branch Conveyed to him by Richard Hill and the parcell of Land on the other side of the said Mill Branch convey'd to him by John Cary to the aforesaid Willm Willet, his grandson, but did further order by his said Will that his Grandson should not dispose of the same to any person but of the name and blood of the Willets. Now this indenture Witnesseth that the Said William Willet the Devise for and on consideration of Fifty pounds in hand paid to the said William by the Said John Willet at and before the ensealing and delivery hereof the receipt whereof the Said William hereby doth acknowledge and thereof doth hereby acquit the Said John Willet, his heirs, Exrs, and Admrs. Hath given, granted, bargained, Sold, Alien'd, Enfeoffe and confirm'd and the Said William doth hereby Give, grant, bargain, Sell, Alien, Enfeoffe and Confirm all that parcell of Land on the South Side of Willets Mill branch, Conveyed by Richard Hill dec'd, to William Willet, the elder, and George Middleton, by Deed bearing date the Eighteenth day of May, Anno Dom MDCLXXVIII, being one acre of Land and also one other parcell of Land formerly Convey'd to the said William Willet, the elder, by John Carey by Deed dated the fourth day of February, MDCLXXXV, Lying on the North side of the said Willetts Mill and bounded as by the Said deed is directed and limited the Same containing Eight or ten Acres, be the same more or less, and also the Millstones, Spindle, and Frog that belonged to the Said Willets Mill when She was formerly in repair, together with the Watercourse of the said Mill branch and all Easements, profits, and advantages to the said premises belonging or in any sort appertaining to have and to hold all and Singular the above devised premises with all and every their members and Appurtenances thereto belonging to the said John Willet, his heirs and Assigns for ever, to the only proper use and behoof of the said John Willet, his heirs and Assigns for ever and no other use or uses whatsoever and the aforesaid William for himself, his heirs, Exrs, and Admrs, doth hereby Covenant and agree to and with the said John, his heirs and assigns for ever, that he hath good Title and Lawful and full power and Authority to sell and Convey all and Singular the above demised premises to the said John in manner and form aforesaid other than the acre above mentioned to be conveyed by Richard Hill, and that he the said William other than the said acre, all and Singular the other premises to the said John Willet, his heirs and assigns for ever

against all persons whatsoever will for ever Warrant and Defend, and that he the said William the aforesaid acre above mentioned to be conveyed by the said Richard Hill from his the Said William, heirs and all persons Claiming under the Said William or his heirs will to the said John Willet his heirs and Assigns forever Warrant and defend, and the aforesaid William Willet doth hereby impower and Authorize John Ryley of the County aforesaid to enter upon the above demised premises and there with his Deed make Livery and Seizin of the Same, and deliver quiet and peaceable possession thereof to the aforesaid John Willet. In Testimony whereof the parties aforesaid have hereto Set their Hands and Seals the day and the year first above written.

(his mark)
William W. Willet

Seal'd and deliver'd in presence of
Wllm Nock, junr
Robt A. Ardies (his mark)
John J. Chambers (his mark)

Memoradum That Livery Seizin and peaceable possession of the premises above Demised was in due form of Law Executed and delivered by John Ryly in the behalf of the Said William Willet in presence of us underwritten this 9th day of June in the Year aforesaid to wit 1736.

Jno Riley

Thos Littleton (his mark)
Morgin Bradshes (his mark)
Richd R. Chambers (his mark)

At a Court held for Accomack County the 6th day of July, 1736, John Willet in open Court presented this Deed of Bargain and Sale for the Land therein mentioned from William Willet which was proven according to the form of the Act of Assembly in that Case made and provided by the Oath of Geo: Douglas, William Nock junr, and John Chambers, three of the Subscribing witnesses and also a power of Attorney from William Willet to John Riley to make Livery and seizin of the Lands and appurtenances in the Deed mentioned which was likewise proven by the Oaths of the Said George Douglas, William Nock junr, and John Chambers, which Livery and Seizin was proven to be duly made by the Said Riley pursuant to that Power to the Said John Willet by the Oaths of Thos Littleton, Morgan Bradshaw, and Richard Chambers, which at the prayer of John Willet is admitted to record.

Test: Jno Jackson, CL
Recorded Test:"

(AccCoLand 1729-1737, pages 7 and 8).

The acre included in this sale which had been originally a gift of Richard Hill had a reversion clause in it which stated that if the mill ceased operation the one acre would revert to the ownership of Richard Hill or his heirs. William Willett was also limited by a clause in his grandfather's will which required that any sale of the mill and premises be made to another male Willett. At this time, because William is represented by an attorney, it is likely that he had moved to Worchester County, Maryland, perhaps having left the mill to be run by hired help who neglected its upkeep. At any rate, in 1736, the mill would have been an old structure when William Willett sold it to his uncle, John.

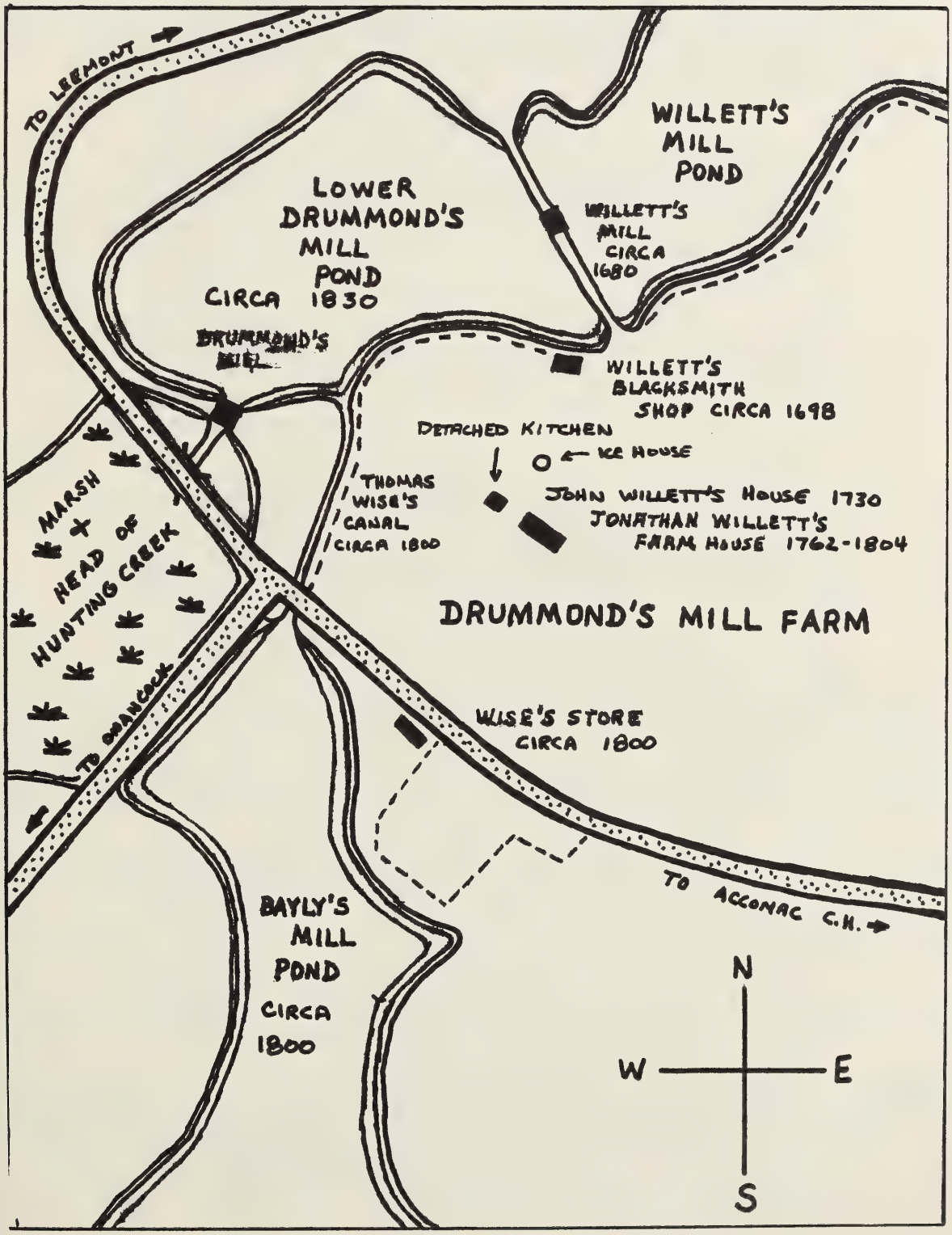
John must have rebuilt or remodeled the mill. Because he will operate it for the next 25 years, and his son, Jonathan, will continue the tradition for another 40 years, until the a new century begins. A few comments from a later age will give some of the flavor of the old mill. "Tuesdays and Fridays see the people come with their barrels and containers of grain for grinding while they for it, paying in toll about one-eight of the grain, a survival custom which is as old as milling ... Every part of the mill, levers, scoops, cogs, and wheels, and even nails and bolts, have been made by hand. It is a monument to the ability of our forefathers to build and endure" (from a calendar distributed by the Parksley National Bank sometime during the 1920s; contributed by John Upshur).

A sketch of Jonathan's inherited land, based on the present, is on the next page. The only things which are known to have existed in 1719 are the mill, blacksmith's shop, and Willett's mill pond. Today, Willett's Mill Pond is usually known as "Upper Drummond's Mill Pond." The road may have been pretty much in the same location as in the sketch, even in this early period. Currently, the old main road between present day Leemont and Accomac Courthouse has been changed. Today, it comes to a stop at the Onancock Road, and the Onancock Road parallels Thomas Wise's canal and crosses the Lower Drummond's Mill Pond to straighten the curve out of the old road. The dam where the original Willett's mill was is an earthen dam which is lower than the dam made by Bagley after 1800. Usually the Willett dam can only be seen when the water in the ponds are low. The actual location of Willett's mill is unknown, but more than likely, it would be closer to the blacksmith shop than the sketch shows. About where the compass is sketched is a low small hill called locally "Willett's Hill." No reason is given for it being known by this name, but it must have received its name during the period that John and his son, Jonathan, owned the land. There is a small square of ground in the field to the east of the main house which local tradition makes as a cemetery. There are no stones in this plot, and soundings of the area by John Upshur at various times has uncovered no indications of buried headstones, or subsurface vaults, or even wooden caskets. Grave markers of stone did not come into use until after 1800. This cemetery must therefore contain either the graves of the Willett family of the 1700-1800 period, or it could be a later graveyard for slaves and servants of the antebellum period who would not have received a permenant headstone. The locations known as Bayly, Wise and Drummond all date from the 1800 to 1850 period when ownership of this Hill-Ayres-Willett property passed out of the Willett family.

On September 30, 1742, John Willet, Thomas Riley, and George Drummond witnessed the will of Job Hadderick (Nottingham, page 107).

On January 28, 1751, John Willett was surety to the will of Raphiel Halbert (Nottingham, page 107).

On December 30, 1760, he administered the estate of Moses Hasles (Nottingham, page 132).


TO LEEMONT
WILLETT'S MILL POND
LOWER DRUMMOND'S MILL POND CIRCA 1830
WILLETT'S MILL CIRCA 1680
DRUMMOND'S MILL
WILLETT'S BLACKSMITH SHOP CIRCA 1698
DETACHED KITCHEN
ICE HOUSE
THOMAS WISE'S CANAL CIRCA 1800
JOHN WILLETT'S HOUSE 1730
JONATHAN WILLETT'S FARM HOUSE 1762-1804
MARSH & HEAD OF HUNTING CREEK
DRUMMOND'S MILL FARM
TO SHANCOCK
WISE'S STORE CIRCA 1800
TO ACCOMAC C.H.
BAYLY'S MILL POND CIRCA 1800
N
W
E
S

John Willett and Ann Lilliston, his sister, proved the will of Jacob Lilliston; "Ann Lilliston relinquished her right, and Elijah Lilliston qualified" (AccCoWills 1757-1761, page 181).

John Willet's lived a long life at Willett's Mill; his will is dated April 15, 1762; pr June 29, 1762, and is given below.

"In the name of God, Amen. I John Willett of Accomack County being very Sick and weak in body, but of Sound and perfect mind and memory thanks be to God all mighty for the Same. And Considering the uncertainty of this life do make and appoint this my last will and testament.

Item: my Will is That my Dear and Loving wife Shall have the use of all the land I purchased of William Willett During her widowhood, and also the Profits of my water Mill only that my Son, Jonathan, Shall have the care of my watermill to Keep her in Repair and be allowed a reasonable Reward for his troubles.

Item: I give and bequeath to my Son Jonathan Willet and his heirs for Ever, all my land and water mill after the Death or marriage of my wife.

Item: my will is that my Son Jonathan fails or refuses to pay unto my Son William Willet twenty pounds Cash or to get him 100 acres somewhere in Worchester County, and in case he Refuse to pay the Said twenty pounds or to get the one hundred acres of Land aforesaid, in that case, my Son William Shall hold and enjoy all that Land I bought of William Willet and my water mill, he and his heirs forever.

Item: my Will is that my Dear and Loving wife shall have the use of my Negro boy Coled Stepney during the term of ten years if my said wife Shall live untill that time.

Item: my Will is that my wife and son William Shall have all my hogs between to live on.

Item: I give to my wife one heiffer big with Calf.

Item: I give to my Son William my Dun horse, bridle and Saddle, and all my Smith's Tools and one great pot and one small pot and one Cow and Calf and one feather bed and furniture.

Item: I give to my Daughter Anne Willet my best feather bed and Furniture, and heiffer and one Callico bed cover, and my largest Iron pot, and Skillet, and one spice mortar, Spoon molds, and box Iron.

Item: I give to my wife one Earthin plate.

Item: my Will is that all my pewter, all my Earthin ware I give to be equally divided between my Son William and daughter Anne.

Item: I give to my Son William all my wearing Close.

Item: I give to my son Ambrose one Shilling.

Item: I give to my Daughter betty one Shilling.

Item: I give to my Daughter mary one Shilling.

Item: I give to my Daughter Sarah (Sinah) one Shilling.

Item: I give to my Daughter Catherine one grubing hoe.

Item: my will is that Tabitha Moor (Moore) shall have all the Estate I had with her Cleare of any Cost.

Item: my will is that my black hors shall be sold at publick vandew (sic) what money he Sells for it I give to my daughter Anne.

Item: I give Bridget Ashby all that I have of her Estate.

Item: I give to my Son William my Crop Except one half of the flax and one third of the Corn which I give to my wife.

Item: I give to my Son William my Still.

Lastly I distribute and appoint James Stran and my Son William hole and Sole Executors of this my last will and Testament and that James Stran Shall See that my Son William Shall not Imbasel Any thing untill he marries. In testimony whereof I have here unto Set my hand and affixed my Seal this fifteenth Day of April, 1762.

Signed Sealed and acknowledged in the presence of
Thomas Riley
George Melson
John Onley.

John Willet

At a Court held for Accomack County, 1762, the within last will Mark and testament of John Willet was presented in Court for Proof, Jonathan Willett, heir at Law, to be Testator, being present and having nothing to object the same was Proved by the Oath of Thomas Riley and Geo: Melson, two witnesses there to and admitted to Record on the motion ..."

(AccCoWills 1761-1767, pages 102-103)

The relationship of the Bridget Ashby and the Tabitha Moore to John Willlet is unknown. The still mentioned in this will had come to John when he purchased the Mill from his nephew, William. Jonathan Willett must have elected to give his brother William Willet the ° 100, because William did not own land in Worchester County, Maryland, and because he stays here at Hunting Creek eventually came to own 50 acres between Hunting Creek and adjoining Jonathan's land.

1. Jonathan: b abt 1728? m between 1755 and 1760 Agnes West, daughter of John and Agnes (Burton) West; d after 1804. See next P.1.5.1.

2. William: b abt 1730? m after 1764 Garthery Taylor, daughter of Jacob Taylor; d 1820. See next P.1.5.2.

3. Anne: b abt 1730? in 1762 received a feather bed, furniture and other household utensils from her father's estate.

4. Ambrose: b abt 1732? in 1762 he was bequeathed 1 shilling by his father; operated a mill at Metompkin and jointly owned 200 acres with William and Elizabeth Turner; m before 1792 Susanna; will dated April 14, 1796, probated January 29, 1798. See next O.5.4.

5. Betty: b abt 1734? in 1762 willed 1 shilling.

6. Mary: b abt 1736? in 1762 willed 1 shilling. This is possibly the Mary Willett, daughter of John Willett, who married the Spencer Lewis that died intestate in 1778.

7. Sinah (Sarah):b abt 1738? in 1762 willed 1 shilling.

8. Catherine: b abt 1740; in 1762 willed "one grubbing hoe".

P.1.5.1
JONATHAN WILLET and AGNES WEST SNEAD
of Willett's Mill, Accomack County, Virginia

Jonathan Willet was born about 1728. He had married Agnes (West) Snead, widower, the daughter of John and Agnes (Burton) West between 1755 and 1760. This was Agnes' second marriage; she had married Thomas Snead sometime before 1755. John West had died sometime in the fall of 1754/1755. He mentioned his daughter Agnes Snead and left her one cow and a calf. Agnes Willet is mentioned in her mother's will of October 29, 1760 (probate December 31, 1760) along,with her sisters, Comfort West, Scarburgh Topping, and Suannah Scott (Nottingham, page 156). Her mother left her some sheep and cattle.

In old England, George III succeeded his grandfather as ruler of England and its possessions. The well noted "Stamp Act" went into effect on November 1, 1764. The Eastern Shore joined with others in expressing indignation over this act. "Every legal document, newspaper or pamphlet handled in the American colony was to have a stamp attached to it. Such stamps cost from 1 penny to 4 shillings, English money, and they could not be purchased with tobacco. The revenue stamp was to pay the expense of the British soldiers who were left in the colonies after the war with France ended and any surplus was to go into the English treasury" (Turman, page 125). At this time, Thomas Parramore and Southy Simpson were the Burgesses from Accomack County, and Edmund Allen, William Bagge, Isaac Smith, James Arbuckle, John Wise, and Henry Fletcher were the justices of the Accomack court.

George III relented under pressure and repealed the stamp act; however, he instituted stiff import duties on glass, lead, tea, and paper. By 1770, the colonists had successfully protested this act, and saw it repealed except for the import duty on tea. These events helped push the colonies into self-sufficiency. "Each small farm or large plantation in Accomack or Northampton counties was rapidly becoming a production factory for the bare necessities of life. Only luxury items had to be purchased from off the shore" (Turman, page 128).

"Tobacco was still the principal money crop. Pork, beef, hides, shoes, corn and wheat, salt and seafood were among the principal exports. Later records show that castor oil was producted extensively. This product was used for medicine and in a number of other ways, including soap, axle grease for wheel vehicles and artists' paints. Flax was produced to make linen and the seed were used in the manufacture of house and boat paint" (Turman, page 125). As noted in John Willett's will of 1762, flax was a comodity produced at the Willett Farm. These exports would have gone across to the "western shore" either by private vessel or on Littleton Eyre's ferry service. Eyre's had the ferry franchise from 1745, possibly as early as 1737, until his death in 1768. Fast sailing boats made to the ports of Hampton and York, and after 1755 Norfolk, and made regularly scheduled runs.

On January 29, 1762, Jonathan Willet, Wonne Rew (sic), and John Lewis witnessed the will of Finley McWilliams (Nottingham, page 162).

In the summer of 1762, Jonathan Willet inherited the family mill and 60 acres from his father. He operated the mill for the remainder of his life and lived here in the house with its detached quarter kitchen that his father had built in the 1720s. An ice house existed on the Drummond Mill Farm until sometime into the 20th century. An inspection of the buried foundations may reveal bricks which can be cross matched to the main house, and thus a date determined for the ice house. It is known that John Willett used an oversized brick in the quarter kitchen. There is a brick foundation in front of the present main house which would yield other bricks for a comparision; and then there is the present main house and the present colonade which would give a third and fourth sample of brick to be compared to the brick in the ice house foundation. Mr. John Upshur provided the sketch below.

Mr. John Upshur provided the following information concerning the old Ice House which is now torn down, and its foundations filled in. It is approximately 100' north of the T.V. antenna pole directly behind the house.

> "Mr. Arthur C. Evans, age 67, of Greenbush, Accomack County, who lives at the old Coard Place one mile from Greenbush, stopped by Drummonds Mill Farm yesterday (March 19, 1959) for a little visit. He told me, he was born in the little brick house (Marino) across the North Pond. He remembers Drummond Mill, the present Drummonds Mill Farm House, and the old Ice House very well. He described the old Ice House, where he said he tasted his first ice cream. He located the position of the old Ice House, and said it wa round, made of brick, and had a pointed shingle roof, like the two now in existence in the town of Accomac, one at the Ross House on Route 13, and the other on the Nock property on Back Street. Mr. Evans said that Mr. William Johnson tore down the old Ice House many years ago and filled it in with dirt" (Mr. John Upshur personal notes dated March 20, 1959).

There was a second ice house a second ice house built over the site of the original conical ice house. This subsequent ice house was made of timbers and was oblong in shape. This one was built at the turn of the 20th century (Mr. John Upshur personal notes).

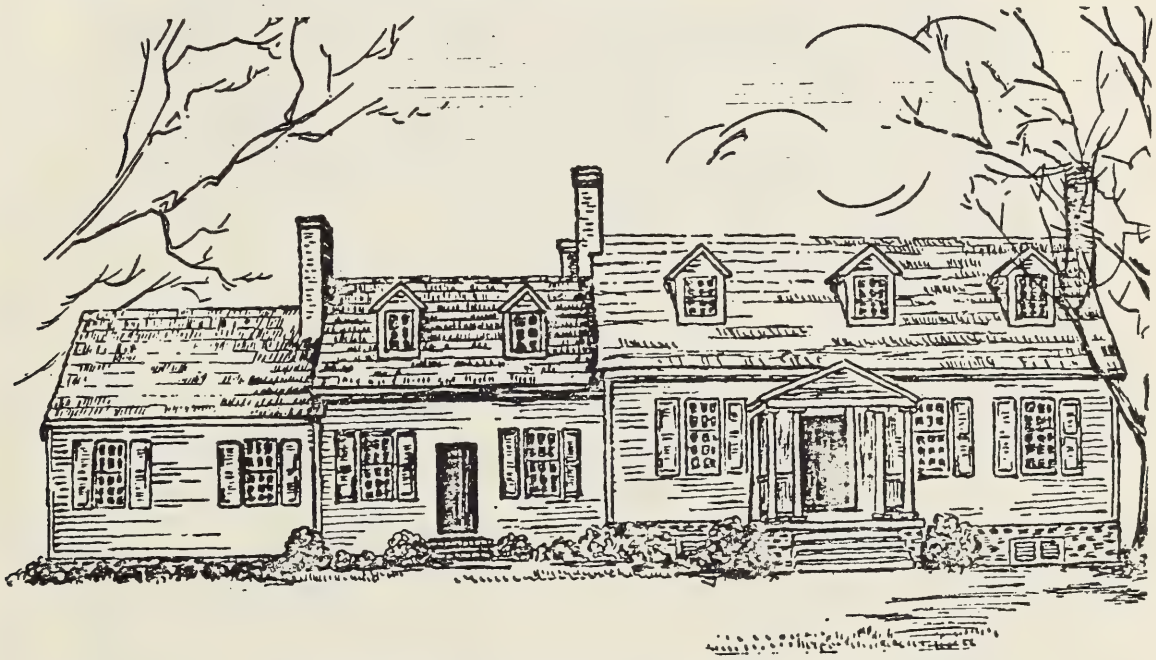
In 1768, Jonathan purchased land from William Drummond by "Bill of Sale" (AccCo-Grantee Index 1758-1770, page 563).

In 1773, Jonathan Willett mortgaged his land to Major West (AccCoGrantee Index 1770-1777, page 164).

In 1776, Jonathan Willet and Agnes witnessed the will of Nathaniel Powell (Nottingham, page 237). Much takes place in the next decade. A war is fought. At least one Accomack Willett (Waitman Willett) dies in that conflict. But, nothing else is known of the war's impact or whether the Willett's sympathies were with the patriots or loyalists.

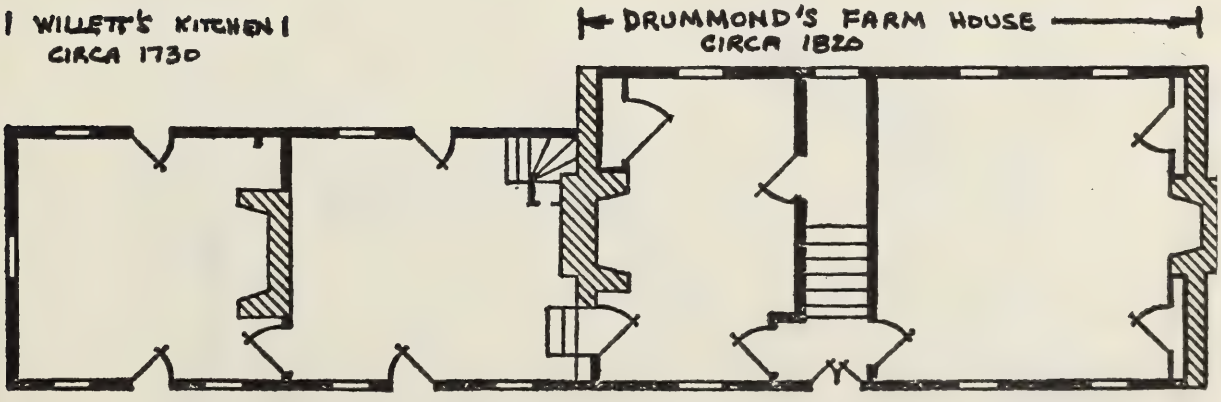
Jonathan inherited a fine and substantial house just to the east of the mill site. At a minimum it consisted of the detached quarter kitchen and a main house sitting slightly forward of the present connected structure known as Drummonds Mill Farm House. The main structure was replaced, either by Wise or Drummond, but the kitchen which was owned by both John Willett, and his son Jonathan, remains. This present structure is one of the

noteworthy houses of the Shore. A new main structure was built sometime after 1804 to replace the old main house belonging to the Willett's. Whether the Willett main house was destroyed by fire or storm, or had simply become inadequate due to its age for the new owners, is unknown. Eventually, the space between the detached kitchen and the "new" main house was connected by a colonnade structure, so that today the house appears as one structure. A sketch of the present Drummonds Mill Farm House appears below. The "little house" is the old quarter kitchen of John Willett.



BIG HOUSE, LITTLE HOUSE AND KITCHEN

Drummonds Mill Farm



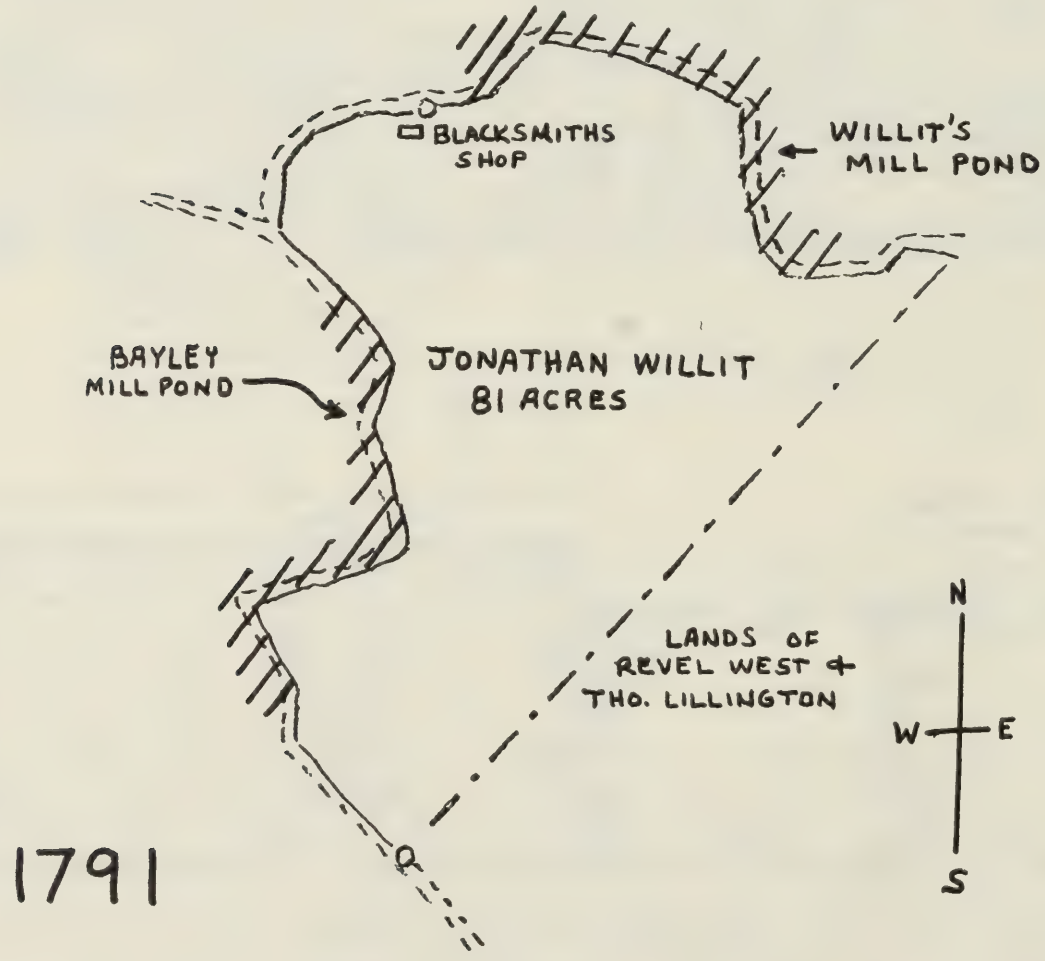
DRUMMONDS MILL FARM

Floor Plan Length 77' 1753-1800

The Willett land had last been surveyed in 1719 when his grandfather willed it to his uncle, William. In 1791, the land was resurveyed and the new survey showed Jonathan owning 81 acres. Most likely, the new survey included the original 60 acres his father had received in 1719, and the additional 10 to 12 acres which was part of the 1736 purchase of the mill from his cousin, William.

"Surveyed at the request of Mr. Jonathan Willit, Eighty one Acres of Land, Situate, lying and being in the Parish of St. George and County of Accomack on the head of Hunting creek and bounded as follows, to wit: On the N.E. by the aforesaid Willit Mill Branch on the N.W. by the Mill Pond. On the S.W. by Mr. Thos. Bayleys Mill Pond and Mill Branch and on the S.E. by a line of marked trees dividing the premises from the lnds of Revel West late of Thos. Litterton for the Courses, distances, Plat and other particulars, see below."

(AccCoSurvey Records No. 1, page 169)



On June 4, 1801, Jonathan Willet and his wife, now called Margaret, sold the mill and 60 acres to Thomas Wise. At this time Jonathan would be approaching 70 years of age, if not more. The mill had been in the Willett family for three generations for over 130 years. The deed from Jonathan Willet to Thomas Wise follows.

"This deed made this 4th day of February in the year of our Lord one thousand, eight hundred and one, between Jonathan Willet and Margaret, his wife, of the county of Accomack on the one part, and Thomas Wise of the same county on the other part. Witnesseth that the said Jonathan Willet and Margaret, his wife, for and in consideration of eight hundred pounds current money of Virginia, to them in hand paid by the said Thomas Wise at and before the ensealing and delivery hereof the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, have granted, bargained and sold, and by these presents do grant, bargain and sell unto the said Thomas Wise and his heirs and assigns forever all that messuage, plantation and tract of Land whereon the said Jonathan now resides at the head of Hunting Creek together with the water grist mill thereon. The said Land lying on both sides of the said mill branch, that on the south side thereof containing by estimation 82 acres and that on the north side containing 12 acres be the same more or less. The said 82 acres being bounded southwesterly by the mill pond and branch below the mill of Thomas Bayly; Northwesterly by the mill pond and branch of the mill hereby conveyed; and easterly by the lands of the heirs of Jacob Phillips, deceased. And that on the north side, northwesterly by the lands of Thomas Bayly and William Willet; and southwesterly by the mill pond and branch below the mill. It being the whole of the lands which the said Jonathan holds on the head of Hunting Creek aforesaid, with the Mill aforesaid, together with the reversion and reversions, remainder and remainders, rents, issues and profits and all and singular the rights members, priviledges and appurtenances to the said lands and mill belonging or in any wise appertaining. To have and to hold the said granted lands and Mill with the appurtenances thereunto severally belonging to him the said Thomas Wise and his heirs and assigns forever. And for no other use, interest or purpose, but to the proper use and behalf of him, the said Thomas Wise, and his heirs and assigns; that he the said Jonathan Willet the aforesaid lands and Mill with the appurtenances, unto the said Thomas Wise and his heirs and assigns against the lawful claim, demand or eviction of all and every person or persons whatsoever will warrant and forever defend and the said Thomas Wise doth hereby for himself and his heirs and assigns, covenant and agree with the said Jonathan Willet and Margaret his wife, shall and may hold, occupy and enjoy the Messuage hereby conveyed, with the young orchard and all the ground now enclosed about the house, supposed to contain about 4 acres during their joint lives and the life of the survivor of them, and shall and may at the proper season take from the lands hereby conveyed so much timber as may be necessary from time to time to keep the fence about the said piece of ground so reserved to the said Jonathan and Margaret, in good repair, and may take also fire wood from the said lands for their own use so long as they reside in the said house, they or those employed by them to get the

said timber or firewood committing no waste on the said lands, but the said Jonathan and Margaret are to commit no waste in the said house and ground with the orchard reserved to them as aforesaid and are not to put any tenant thereon or increase the number of fireplaces while they hold it. In testimony whereof the said parties have hereunto set their hands and affixed their seals the day and year before written.

Jonathan Willet (seal)
Margaret Willet (mark)

Signed Sealed and Delivered
in the presence of
John Smith
Thomas Custis
Jno Wise
Isaiah Bagwell"
(AccCoDeeds 1800-1804, page 66)

Thomas Wise also purchased the Bayly Mill and lands on November 2, 1804, for fifteen hundred dollars. (AccCoDeeds 1804-1807, page 201). The section of land around the two mill sites became known as Wiseville. Jonathan's continued to live their until his death. However, the exact date of his or her death has not been found.

At some point in time, the old Willett's Mill ceased to exist. Thomas Wise had bequeathed these joint Willett-Bayly lands to his nephew, Thomas Blackstone in his will dated Febuary 6, 1805, and proved May 27, 1807 (AccCoWills 1806-1809, pages 122-124). At this time the Willett and Bayly mills were still standing. Sometime between 1807 and 1818, the Willett Mill was destroyed. Thomas W. Balckstone and Anne, his wife, sold the land to John Y. Bagwell. Their deed transferred "all of the mill stream, Mill dam, etc., there being no mill on the premises, but the water being conveyed by a canal into the mill pond which was Jonathan Willet's as aforesaid" (AccCoDeeds 1821-1822, page 400).

John R. Drummond built the third mill on the old Willett site after 1830. This is the mill which is remembered by the older inhabitants. "The old mill continued in operation, off and on, under various names, until August 25, 1937, when the dam was swept away by heavy rains, taking the mill with it and emptying the pond behind it. It was the last of the countless mills once on the Shore and many people felt a personal loss when the picturesque old structure was destroyed" (Whitelaw, page 1021).

On June 30, 1804, Jonathan Willet freed his slave. The slave was named Francis Willett (AccCoLand 1800-1804, page 42). This is the last notice we have of Jonathan Willet and ends the story of that is woven around the old Willett's Mill. There is a lot we would like to know about Jonathan. What is his wife's maiden name? Did he have any children? There are several marriages during this period, and these bride's may well be children of Jonathan. Also, there is the nagging question of, who was the Waitman Willet of Accomack County that died in the Battle of Germantown during the Revolution. He certainly is a relation of this family, but his relationship is unknown. Most likely, Jonathan Willet did not have any male heirs to leave his property to; and whether it is due to death in war, children who predecease him, or lack of male issue is unknown.

P.1.5.2
WILLIAM WILLETT and GARTHERY TAYLOR of Hunting Creek

William Willet was born about 1730 and grew up at the Willett Mill and lived in the Willett house, from which the quarter kitchen still survives. The area was then, and still in a large part today, known as Hunting Creek. Today, just north about a mile is the small village of Leemont, and up Hunting Creek is Hopkins. At the time William lived, shallow draft vessels sailed right up to the wharf at the Hill Plantation. Another plantation was on the north side of the creek. Perhaps skiffs and bateaus came right up the creek to a spot near the mill site.

William grew up at the mill and most likely learnt the trade of a blacksmith, as well as farmer. He was already a young man when his father died in 1762. William received hogs, smith's tools, wearing close (sic), dun horse, and a share in what must have been a profitable still. There is no indication in his father's will whether he is married or not, and it is unlikely that he was married to Garthery Taylor at this time. There is always the possibly that he may have married about 1750 and been widowed by 1760. It is known that after 1762, he married Garthery Taylor the daughter of Jacob Taylor. In 1764, Garthery (Gertrude) Taylor had inherited the 50 acres adjoining and to the west of Jonathan Willett's mill. Jonathan's mill was beginning to have competition. Riley had built a mill on the Eastern Fork of Hunting Creek just to the north. Bayly had either built, or would soon build a mill on the South Fork within several hundred yards of Willett's Mill.

Although no battles were fought on the Shore, the American Revolution did have some impact on the Shore. "Accomack supplied five companies, and Northampton two, which became a part of the Ninth Virginia Regiment which marched north for participation in the hostilities" (Whitelaw, page 42). Eastern Shore's most noted military figure, Colonel John Cropper, commanded the Regiment for a time. In addition militia were organized for home protection. Other acquanitances of the Willett family went to sea. "Edmund (Allen) had been a Lieutenant on a privateer, and the last heard from him was in 1781 when he was a prisoner in London, and it is assumed he had died there" (Whitelaw, page 1073).

It was at the Battle of Germantown that a Waitman Willett of the Ninth Virginia and a Shore man died. He is not mentioned in John Willett's will of 1762. Ambrose Willett died in Worchester County, Maryland, and Waitman may have been one of his children, but at present his relationship to the Eastern Shore Willett's is unknown.

On February 23, 1779, William Willett administered the estate of Solomon Willis; Jonathan Willett, his brother, and John Chandler were security (Nottingham, page 232).

In 1786, William Willett negotiated a lease with Robinson Custis (AccCoGrantees Index 1783-1788, page 335). In 1787, William Willet leased land from John Sharlock (AccCo-Grantor Index 1783-1788, page 384).

William Willett left his estate to his youngest son. Most likely William Willett's older sons predeceased him.

In 1788, the land that his wife, Gertrude Taylor inherited in 1762 was surveyed.

> "March 15, 1788: Surveyed three hundred and forty five acres of land, situate upon the head of Hunting Creek in the County of Accomack, called Finlay's Point, whereof partition was afterwards made by the Judgment of the Court of the County afsd. in manner following, to wit, to Thomas Bayly and Anne, his wife, in right of the said Anne, one hundred and seventy two acres and one half acre; to the sd. Thomas Bayly in his own right, forty three acres and one eight of an acre; to Major Rayfield and Mary, his wife, in right of dower of the sd. Mary and

to William Turner, eighty six acres and one quarter of an acres; and to William Willet and Garthery, his wife, and Jacob Taylor, forty three acres and one eighth of an acre. For the courses, distances, platt and division, see more particularly below.

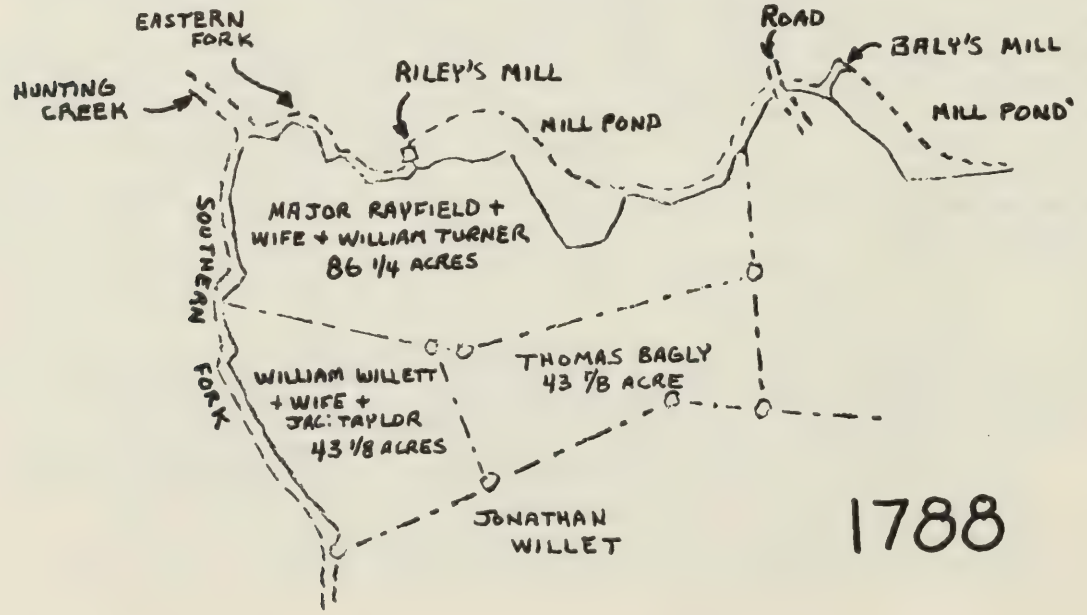
Thos. Evans, Sur: Acco"

(AccCoSurvey Records Part 1, page 88)

This was part of 400 acres originally patented to Finla Mackwilliam in 1664. In 1687 Finla Mackwilliam had left the western portion of the patent to his Finla. This Finla died and his sister, Sarah inherited. She married a Courtney, and her son Charles came into possession of the 200 acres. He sold 100 acres to Abraham Turner, and left the remaining 100 acres, also in 1764, as 50 acres each to William Rolley and Garthery Taylor, the daughter of Jacob Taylor (Whitelaw, pages 1075-1076). Garthery married William Willett before the war began (sometime between 1764 and 1775). This property overlooks Hunting Creek and adjoins the Willett Mill and the property owned by Jonathan Willett.

William Willett must have built a home here on this property, perhaps somewhere overlooking the creek along the wood line. Today, there is a Willett family cemetery in the pines overlooking the creek, just north of the old Ayres farm house. The 5 headstones belong to his grandchildren, so it would only be natural to assume that he and his children are buried in the same area. Stone grave markers were not used, at least by the Willett family, at this time, and all wooden markers have long since disappeared.

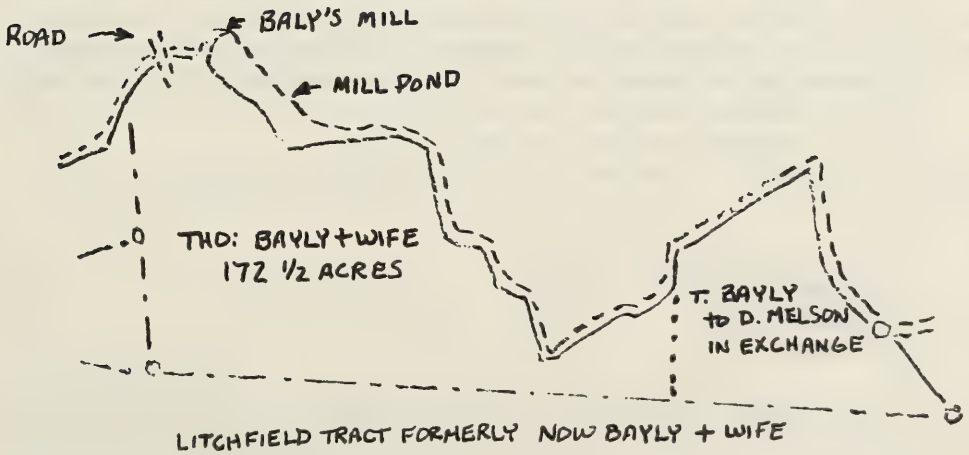
The worst of the fighting was ended at the Battle of Yorktown in 1783. However, the official close to the Revolutionary War did not come until the Treaty of Paris was signed on September 3, 1784, by John Adams, Benjamin Franklin, and John Jay. Adams stated that the treaty was "one of the most important political events that ever happened on this globe" Ben Franklin called it "the greatest truimph in the history of American diplomacy." John Jay was on a Willett built ship that rolled over in a hurricane. The ship righted itself, but the captain was able to reach a neutral Carribean port.



In addition to formally ending the war, the Treaty established the boundaries of the nation at the Great Lakes, the Mississippi River, and the northern border of Florida, which the British had ceded to Spain. Final ratification of the treaty was not completed until May 12, 1784. The new American nation began its life with not just the borders which had been part of British colonial America, but nearly doubled its size at the same time. Although the momentous changes were happening in the colonial world, we do not know what part William Willett or his family took in these events. Many of the colonials had a strong Tory sentiments; after all, the English king had protected and nourished the colonies for well over 150 years. All of the justices, judges, and other officials of the political life of each colony owed their offices and station to the king. William Willett may have just as easily have been a Tory as a patriot. Nothing in the record discovered to date has shed any light on this point.

In 1787, there were three Willett taxpayers in Accomack County: Jonathan, William, and Thomas. The relationship of this Thomas to Jonathan and William is unknown. Their brother, Ambrose, had a son Thomas, but he died between September 24, 1780, and March 11, 1783. Then there is the problem of Waitman Willett who dies at Germantown. His relationship is also unknown, but he is an Accomack County Willett. One possibly could be that Willam Willett had been married about 1750 to a first wife who name is unknown. Then William Willett may have had children Waitman, and Thomas, who are otherwise unmentioned in the family records. But all this is speculation, and an answer must await further discoveries.

It was in William Willett's lifetime that a new courthouse was ordered built. Onancock to the south on the bayside had served as both the county seat and a port of entry from about 1670 until the establishment of Accomac Courthouse. The new county seat was to be established just south and east about 5 miles from the Willett homestead "on ten acres of land, the property of Henry Drummond, adjoining the courthouse ... to be laid out in lots of half an acre each, with convenient streets" and to be known as Drummontown. This was in 1786, and is the county seat of Accomack, today.



On October 30, 1798, William Willett and Jonathan Willett were security for the estate of Major West.

William Willett is in the 1820 census, along with John, Waitman, William Jr., and another William Willett. William, William, Jr., John, and Waitman all live on or near the land that the senior William Willett owns overlooking Hunting Creek. The other William Willett lives elsewhere in the county.

William must have been an very old man of 90 when he died; his will is dated July 17, 1820. At this age, he must have had children who predeceased him, or who had different sentiments concerning the Revolutionary War than he held. Thus, not all of his children would be mentioned in this will. He appointed his son, Charles C. Willett, and his friend, William Bagwell, as executors. It has been difficult to establish who all the members of his family were; the list below is based on much conjecture; again we must await new discoveries before being positive that the assumptions which have led to this list of children are true.

"In the name of God, Amen. I, William Willett Sen. of the County of Accomack in the State of Virginia, do make this my last Will and Testament, in the manner and form following: that is to say:

Imprimis: I Will and desire that my Just debts be honestly and punctually paid out of my Estate by my Executor herein after named.

Item: I give to my granddaughter, Gartret Taylor Willett the Sum of Fifty dollars for the purpose of educating her so far as the Said is Sufficient to pay for the teacher alone.

Item: I give to my granddaughter Cafsey Trader the Sum of Twenty dollars being the amount received out of her mother's estate by me for her and as I have made no charge against her for Board nor clothing, I intend the said Sum of twenty Dollars to exonerate me and my Estate from all claims which may be brought against me or my heirs for that or as that accepted by her or any person in her life.

Item: I give to my daughter Anna Melson one Bed and furniture, one Spinning wheel, and one cow and calf, all of which She now has in her possession, the Same being delivered to her previous to this day.

Item: I give the whole of the residue of my Estate of what kind or description Soever to my Son, Charles C. Willett and his heirs forever.

Lastly, I do constitute and appoint my Son, Charles C. Willett, and my friend, William Bagwell, Executors of this my last Will. In testimony thereof I hereunto Set my hand and affixing my Seal this 17th day of July one thousand and Eight hundred and Twenty.

William Willett (mark)

Signed, Sealed and published
William Bagwell
Isaiah Bagwell
William Wallop

At a Court held for Accomack County November the 27th, 1820, This last Will and Testament of William Willett, Sen., decd, was proved by the oaths of William Bagwell a witness thereto and ordered to be recorded.

Examined Teste: Richard D. Bayly, Clk"
(AccCoWill 1819-1821, page 326)

As Executor, Charles C. Willett had to post a bond before he could administer his father's estate. He did this on December 25, 1820. At this time "old" Christmas would have been celebrated on January 6.

> "On the motion of Charles C. Willett, one of the Executors named in the last Will and Testament of William Willett, senr, decd, taking oath and giving bond according to law in the sum of $1000.00 with John Y. Bagwell, and Henry Bagwell, securities thereto. A Certificate is granted him for obtaining a probate thereof in due form" (AccCoOrders 1819-1822, page 257).

1. John: b abt 1775 (1775-1785); in the 1810, 1820, and 1830 censuses. He married 1st December 23, 1798, Sophia Lewis; married 2d 1824 Sally Hurst. See next P.1.5.2.1.

2. William: b abt 1777 (his birth is given variously as between 1770-1780, 1775-1785, 1765-1785); married; residing in Accomack County. See next P.1.5.2.2.

3. Waitman: b 1779 (1775-1794); m March 5, 1806, Sarah (Sally) White, Daniel Melson, Surety. Also, on March 5, 1806, land was transfered from Daniel Melson, Sr., trustee to Waitman Willett and Sarah White "in consideration of marriage" (AccCoLand 1804-1807, page 552). He died in 1813. See next P.1.5.2.3.

4. Charles C: b abt 1780; a "miller"; m March 12, 1814, Mary Turner. He was left the "whole of the residue" of his father's estate. He is in the 1830 and 1850 censuses. See next P.1.5.2.4.

5. Anna (Mary?): b November 1, 1798, in Accomack County, Virginia (according to the Bible of Levin D. Lewis); m February 1, 1816, Smith Melson (b 1795? in Maryland). At "Marino" is a gravestone marked "Annie F. Willett, wife of Smith Melson, born November 1, 1798, died October 5, 1872." Her husband, Smith Melson, has a stone at the old Charles C. Willett farm graveyard.

1. Mary A. Melson: b August 27, 1831; m December 20, 1849, Levin D. Lewis (b January 20, 1818; d November 10, 1886; buried at "Marino"). She died March 4, 1908. (Bible of Levin D. Lewis).

6. (daughter): b 1775-1795; m Trader; had a daughter, Cassey Trader; d before 1820.

1. Casey Trader; who was left $20.00 in 1820 by her grandfather, William Willett, for her education.

P.1.5.2.1
JOHN WILLETT of Hunting Creek, Accomack County, Virginia

John Willett is believed to have been born between 1770 and 1775; there is a very strong presumption that he is the son of William Willett (d 1820) and Garthery Taylor even though he is not mentioned in his (presumed) father's will.

A John Willett of St. George's Parish, Accomack County, Virginia, married on December 23, 1798, Sophia Lewis, widow, (b 1765-1775). There are 3 marriages recorded in Accomack County during this period for John Willetts. It is possible that this John married twice; the second time in 1824 to Sally Hurst. The third John Willett marriage is that of a John Willett to Claudia Speight. It is assumed that this last John Willett is the uncle of this John Willett. The period after the Revolutionary War and until about 1825 is a very difficult one for the genealogist. There is a very interesting tradition from the Gaspe Coast in the Province of Quebec, Canada, that an Accomack County William Willett migrated to New Richmond in 1783. However, at this time, it is unknown how he can be related to the Accomack Willett's.

John Willett purchased land from Edmund B. Ayres. This is clear from his will, but a record of this sale has not been found in the Accomack records. The description of the land places it just south of the old Willett Mill and a little west (probably) of the Bayly Mill on what is today known as Coards Branch. John Willett's purchase was bounded by the lands of Thomas Lewis, Sr., and John R. Drummond, and by Drummond's Mill and Ironmonger Branch. In another 20 years, this section around the millpond became known as Wiseville and consisted of Drummond's Mill Farm House, Wise's Store, the William Willett's 43 1/8 acres and a few other farm houses near the crossroads where the mill operated. Charles Willett lived across the road facing the mill about a 1/4 mile to the east, overlooking the extreme marshy end of Hunting Creek.

Jonathan Willett, his uncle, may have been still living in the house he built. Today, that house is known as the Drummond Mill Farm House. The detached kitchen which Jonathan owned survives and is attached to the main structure. The main structure which was lived in by Jonathan Willett has disappeared over the years and been replaced. This type of structure is common on the Shore, and is known as "big house, little house and kitchen". Presently, the house is owned by Mr. John Upshur.

The 1800 census lists only 1 daughter at home with John Willett. The 1810 census of St. George's Parish lists John Willett with a household of 9, which included 1 free colored. Perhaps this 8 would include himself, wife, 3 daughters and 3 sons (1810 Census, Accomack Co., page 67; 1820, page 19; and 1830, page 318).

In 1824, a John Willett whose father is William married Sally Hurst. This is probably the same John Willett (above) because the 1820 census does not list a female who is of the age to be John's wife.

John Willett, William Willett, and Charles Willett's households were adjacent to each other, as the 1830 and 1840 censuses list them in consecutive order.

The relationship of John Willett to Timothy and Southy Colony is unknown, accept that on July 29, 1835:

> "It is ordered to be certified that it appears to the Court by satisfactory proof that Timothy Colony, and Southy Colony, soldiers of the Virginia Continental Line in the Revolutionary War, died intestate, and that Nancy, Sarah, and Elijah Colony were their brothers and sisters and only heirs at Law.
>
> That Nancy is now Nancy Melson.

That Susan married John Parkes, and died intestate, leaving Edmund Parkes, Peter Parkes, Polly Stephens, John Willett, Betsey Parkes, Anna Landin, James Parkes, Sally Churn, Edmund Turnal, Robert Turnall, and Sarah Turnall her only heirs.

That Elijiah Colony, brother of Southy and Timothy, died intestate, leaving Caty Colony, John Colony, Susan Colony, Comfort Thomas, Henry Colony, Sally Colony, William Colony, Elijiah Colony, Thomas Bull, Elisha Bull, Fanny Bull, James Colony, and John W. Colony his only heirs" (Revolutionary Soldiers and Sailors of Accomack County, Nottingham, page 64).

John Willett's oldest son, William, died early in the year 1837. There is no known will. John Willett was the executor of his brother's estate. The brother, John Willett, evidently came into possession of a legacy when his brother died. William's wife, Polly Gray, and his five children moved into the household of the elder John Willett and lived with him until his death.

There was much difficulty in determining the relationships of John Willett, Polly, and his grandchildren, John Willett's will of October 26, 1843, is given below.

"I John Willet of the County of Accomac and State of Virginia, being of sound mind, memory and understanding, do make and publish this my last Will and Testament, in manner of the following: that is to say:

The land which I purchased of Edmund B. Ayres, and where I at present reside is intended for my grandsons hereinafter named, and is divided as follows: by commencing at a Walnut tree at the South end of my land; nearly in a South end of my land; near the lands of Thomas Lewis Senr: and thence running nearly in a South east direction (with several trees, marking as line trees intervening) to a pine tree near the lands of John R. Drummond at the north end of my land; the aforesaid line was made, and the trees marked in the presence of Smith Melson, and intended as the dividing line between my grandsons hereinafter named.

Item 1st: I give and bequeath to my grandson, Thomas R. Willet, all that part of my land and tenaments ... (Corn stack excepted) on the west side of the aforesaid line, and bounded as follows, on the South by the land of Thomas Lewis Senr, West by ironmonger's branch and J. R. Drummond's Mill land and on the North by the lands of John R. Drummond, to him and his heirs forever.

Item 2: I give and bequeath to my grandson, John W. Willett, all that part of my lands and tenaments ... on the east side of the aforesaid line my boundary as follows by: on the South by the lands of Thomas Lewis Senr: east by the county road, and on the North by the land of J. R. Drummond together with the Cornstack excepting in the bequest to Thomas R. Willet, to him and his heirs forever.

If either of my aforesaid grandsons should die without lawful issue, then it is my will that my grandson, William M. Willet should inherit the aforesaid property.

Item 3: I give my granddaughter, Ann Willet, Twenty five dollars.

Item 4: I give my granddaughter, Sally Willet, Twenty five dollars.

Item 5: I give to Charles C. Willet all my wearing apparel.

Item 6: all the rest of my estate of what nature or kind soever it may be not herein before particularly disposed of, I give and bequeath to my grandson, William M. Willet to him and his heirs forever, and it is my desire that his guardian invest his portion in real estate whenever a suitable opportunity should offer.

And lastly, I do hereby constitute and appoint John R. Drummond executor of this my last will and testament hereby revoking all other or former wills or testaments by me heretofore made. In witness thereof I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal, this the twenty six day of October; eighteen hundred and forty three.

Signed, sealed, published of
declared as & for the last will
& testament of the above written
John Willet, in presence of
William Cooper
George T. Ewell
O. P. Drummond

John Willet (mark)

At a Court held for Accomack County, on the 29th day of July 1844. This last Will and Testament of John Willet dec'd was proved by the Oath of William Cooper & George T. Ewell witnesses. Whereto & ordering to be recorded. And on the motion of John R. Drummond the executor wherein named, taking Oath, & giving Bond according to Law in the penalty of Three Thousand dollars with Edward .... & Thomas Lewis / of S / are witness thereto ... granted him for ... a probate thereof in due form.

Testa: Tho Joyner, Clerk"

(AccCoWills 1828-1846, page 512)

John Willett's will is dated October 26, 1843, and in the division of his lands to his grandsons, he described the "marked" trees as being the division between their lands and that he marked the trees in the presence of Smith Melson. This would be his brother-in-law. He left all of his "wearing apparell" to Charles C. Willett. Charles lived next to him and would have been his brother. John R. Drummond was the executor, and the will was proved on July 29, 1844. He did not mention his eldest son, William, since he had died 6 years earlier; however, his daughter-in-law, Polly, and all of William's children are mentioned. Polly had been living in his household since her husband's death.

Why John Willett did not mention his second son John is unknown. However, John had been heavily indebted in 1834 and 1835 and possibly a rift had developed between father and son.

The next group of entries concern the settling of John Willett's estate. It is interesting to note that the partners, John R. Drummond and Edward Gunter, are mentioned in these entries. They traded under the name of Gunter and Drummond, probably selling goods out of the old Wise Store just across the road from the old Willett Farm and Mill.

By now, the mill and farm had probably taken on the name of its new owner, John R. Drummond; a name by which it is still known today. On Monday, July 29, 1844:

> "The last will and Testament of John Willett, dec'd, was proved by the oaths of William Copes and George P. Ewell witnesses thereto and ordered to be recorded. And on the motion of John R. Drummond the Executor therein named, taking oath and giving Bond according to Law, in the penalty of Three Thousand dollars, with Edward Gunter and Thomas Lewis (of S.) Securities thereto. Certificate is granted him for obtaining a probate thereof in due form" (AccCoOrders 1842-1845, page 475).

On Monday, May 25, 1845, at the Court Quarter Session:

> "On the application of John R. Drummond Executor of John Willett, dec'd, ordered that William Riley, Frances R. Ayres, and Augustine W. Bagwell, or any two of them being first duly sworn by commissioners, to state, settle and adjust the estate of the said John Willett, dec'd and make report thereof to the Court" (AccCoOrders 1842-1845, page 625).

On Monday, July 28, 1845:

> "An Inventory and Appraisement of the Estate of John Willett Jr, dec'd, was returned and ordered to be recorded" (AccCoOrders 1842-1845, page 674).
>
> "An Account of Sales of the Estate of John Willett Jr, dec'd, was returned and ordered to be recorded" (AccCoOrders 1842-1845, page 674).
>
> "An Audit and Settlement of the Estate of John Willett Jr, dec'd, was returned and ordered to be recorded" (AccCoOrders 1842-1845, page 674).

On Monday, August 25, 1845, at the Court Quarter Session:

> "An Audit and Settlement of the Estate of John Willett Jr, dec'd, having been returned to the last Court, and no exception being made thereto, it is ordered to be recorded" (AccCoOrders 1845-1848, page 3).

1. (daughter): b 1795-1800 possibly 1799.

2. (daughter): b 1800-1810.

3. William: b 1800-1810 possibly between 1805-1810; m January 5, 1827, Mary Gray. See next P.1.5.2.1.3.

4. John: b 1800-1810 possibly 1805-1810; married about 1820 (wife born between 1800-1810). (1830 Accomack County Census, page 318; 1840 Accomack County Census, page 39). He describes himself as an ocean navigator.

1. (daughter): b abt 1820 (between 1820-1825; 1810-1820). (1830, 1840 Accomack County census).

2. (daughter): b abt 1825 (between 1825-1830; 1820-1825). (1830, 1840 Accomack County census).

3. (daughter): b abt 1827 (between 1825-1830). (1830, 1840 Accomack County census).

4. (daughter): b abt 1829 (between 1825-1830). (1830, 1840 Accomack County census).

5. (son): b abt 1837 (between 1835-1840). (1840 Accomack County census).

5. (son): b 1800-1810 possibly 1810-1820.

P.1.5.2.1.3
WILLIAM WILLETT and MARY GRAY
of Hunting Creek, Accomack County, Virginia

William Willett was born about 1805 and grew up on a farm overlooking Hunting Creek in St. George's Parish, Accomack County, Virginia. William was the son of John Willett (d 1843) who was probably both a farmer and a blacksmith. As a young boy, he could go over to his uncle Jonathan's and see the old Willett house that his great-grandfather, John Willett, had built about 1730. The old Willett mill had probably disappeared from old age. The blacksmith's shop where his father learned a trade was beginning to disappear.

The old Willett Mill had been just up the head of the Creek about a half mile. It had grown old and probably was so outmoded that its new owner, Thomas Wise, had abandoned it as a mill. The mill had fell into a period of neglect and decade, and then eventually disappeared except for the low earthen dam which it sat upon. Possibly, it was even pulled down for the timber and beams. Thomas Wise eventually sold the old mill site to John R. Drummond who built a new mill a little lower down the branch behind a new earthen dam which was higher than the old Willett dam. Just to the south along the southern branch of Hunting Creek was another mill which Bayly had built sometime around the Revolutionary War period.

On January 5, 1827, William Willett married Mary (Polly) Gray (b abt 1805), the daughter of Solomon and Elizabeth (Lewis) Gray (married December 27, 1791; AccCoBonds). They probably lived with his father, John Willett.

William Willett is mentioned as an heir of Francis and Henry Ayres, soldiers of the Virginia Line in a document dated March 28, 1831. It is not presently known how he was related to Francis and Henry Ayres.

> March 28, 1831: "It is certified as it appears to the Court by satisfactory proof that William Willett, Thomas Ayres, Littleton Ayres, and Henry Ayres are the heirs at law of Francis Ayres and Henry Ayres, soldiers of the Virginia Line on Continental establishment in the Revolutionary War" (Revolutionary Soldiers and Sailors of Accomack County, Nottingham, page 25; page 250 in the original).

He is mentioned as an heir-at-law of William Willis, a sailor of the Virginia navy, in a document dated September 25, 1832. Again, it is unknown how he is related.

> September 25, 1832: "It is certified that William Willis, a sailor in the Virginia Navy in the Revolutionary War died intestate ... And that William Willett, Sally Dix, wife of William Dix, Lovey Hogshire, and Susan Hogshire, are the only heirs at Law of the said William Willis" (Revolutionary Soldiers and Sailors of Accomack County, Nottingham, page 48; page 16 in the original).

Virginia land warrants could be issued to the heir of a revolutionary war soldier and were negotiable instruments. This appears to have happened and it is doubtful if the land represented by the land warrant was ever occupied by William Willett. It is unknown how

William was an heir of William Willis. The following discussion concerns William Willis and his land warrant.

On July 31, 1783, a Land Office Warrant, Number 1456, was issued to William Willis for 200 acres of land due William Willis as a soldier of the Virginia Continental Line. The obverse had written on it: "I do hereby assign over my right and title to the within warrant to William Walden, his heirs and assigns ... 4th day of November 1792 ... (signed) William Willis." William Walden assigned the warrant on December 3, 1792, to Charles Buck; and Charles Buck assigned the same warrant on April 6, 1830, to John Moore. The land was surveyed (Survey Number 4540, dated August 28, 1804) on Warrant Number 1456, for 200 acres of land on Oak Run, a branch of Deer Creek. Bureucracy being the same every where, other formal notices were taken of this military land warrant.

"Surveyor's Office:
for the Virginia Military District, within the State of Ohio:

"I, Allen Latham, Surveyor of said Military District, do certify that the Warrant on which the above Survey (Number 4540) is made to wit, Number 1456, in the name of William Willis was never before satisfied; that the entry on which survey is founded was made 16th August 1804, and that the above described land is not surveyed west of the boundary line between the source of the Little Miami and Scioto Rivers, established by a law of teh United States; nor any previously surveyed land of the United States.

Given under my hand and seal of office, at Chillicothe, this 13th day of Feby, 1830 and the 54th year of the Independence of the United States.

Allen Latham"

"Land Office, Virginia:

I do certify that a Land Warrant Number 1456 for two hundred acres in favor of William Willis, a private in the Continental Line, issued from this office, bearing date the 17th day of July, 1783, and that no other warrant has been issued for the same services.

Given under my hand and the
Seal of my office, on the 7th day
of September, 1830.

William Selden: R. L. Office, Virginia"

"Patent to be forwarded to Colonel Moore, London, Madison County (Ohio)."

John Moore received 200 acres on a Patent dated December 18, 1830 for: "William Willis a soldier for the war issue the patent to John Moore, assignee of Charles Bucks assignee of William Walden who was the assignee of the said Wm: Willis a certain tract of land containing 200 acres for survey Nmber 4540 on Military Warrant 1456: 200 acres."

It is not known how are why William Willis and his heirs were able to make claim and receive 4 different land warrants for his Revolutionary War services. Perhaps, a land warrant was issued for each enlistment. It would seem that William Willis served various enlistments in both the Continental Line and the Virginia Navy.

On February 21, 1787, William Willis received a Virginia Land Office Warrant Number 4259 for 200 acres due him for 3 years service in the Virginia Continental Line. On March 7, 1787, William Willis assigned the same warrant to Joseph Watkins for ten dollars.

On February 18, 1855, William Willett (most likely the son of this William Willett) and others requested and received Land Warrant Number 8112 for 100 acres based on the service of William Willis who had served in the Virginia State Navy.

A fourth claim was made and Land Warrant Number 9889, no date noted, was issued to William Willett for 200 acres based on William Willis's service.

Early in the summer of 1837, William Willett died. On July 31, 1837, Monday:

> "On the motion of John Willett taking Oath and giving Bond according to Law in the penalty of One thousand dollars with Charles C. Willett and Thomas Hurst securities thereto, letters of Administration are granted him on the Estate of William Willett, dec'd" (page 207).

This entry is interesting because it mentions his father, John Willett, his uncle, Charles C. Willett, and his father-in-law, Thomas Hurst, all in one document. Because a will is not mentioned, nor one being recorded in Accomack County, William Willett had most likely died intestate.

On Monday, July 31, 1837, the Accomack County Court:

> "Ordered that Edmund B. Ayres, Smith Melson, John Drummond, and Edward Gunter or any three of them being first duly sworn do appraise the personal Estate of William Willett, dec'd, and make report thereof to the Court" (AccCoOrders, page 207).

John Drummond and Edward Gunter ran a store, probably in Wise's Store and traded under the firm name Gunter and Drummond. Smith Melson was William's uncle by marriage. William Willett's father had purchased land from Edmund B. Ayres.

On December 25, 1837, Monday:

> "A Deed from William Willett to Edmund Mason was acknowledged by said William as his act and deed and ordered to be recorded" (AccCoOrders 1836-1840, page 267).

This entry appears to be inconsistent; perhaps another William Willett is meant, an uncle or his grandfather, or less likely, it may mean that a deed which was given by William Willett before his decease, was acknowledged in open Court. However, the wording of this entry does not seem to admit of such a possibly.

On Monday, May 27, 1839, at the Court Quarter Session

> "John Willett, Jr. was by the Court appointed Guardian to Ann, Sally, Thomas, John, and William Willett, orphans of William Willett, decd, and he thereupon together with John C. Hall and John R. Drummond his securities thereunto entered into and acknowledged a Bond in the penalty of Five Hundred dollars conditioned according to Law" (AccCoOrders 1836-1840, page 520).

John R. Drummond had purchased the old Drake's Neck Hill-Ayres-Willett 180 acres were the old Willett Mill had been located. Drummond built a new mill downstream and ran a store in partnership with Gunter.

The following action all took place on Monday, March 30, 1840, at the Court Quarter Session:

> "Orphan Accounts against Ann, Sally, and Thomas Willett were examined by the Court and ordered to be recorded" (AccCoOrders 1840-1842, page 5).

> "An Inventory and Appraisement of the Estate of William Willett, dec'd, was returned and ordered to be recorded" (AccCoOrders 1840-1842, page 5).

> "An Account of the Sale of the Estate of Wiliam Willett, dec'd, was returned and ordered to be recorded" (AccCoOrders, page 5).

> "Orphan Accounts against Ann Willett, Sally Willett, Thomas Willett, John Willett, and William Willett were returned and ordered to be recorded" (AccCoOrders, page 6).

In Virginia, a male was of age at 21, and a female at 18. At the age of 14 an orphan could petition the court for a guardian of his choice. Between the age of 17 and 21, an orphan could act in his own name except for selling real estate. A child was considered an orphan of the court whenever either parent died.

On Thursday, April 2, 1840, Court Quarter Session:

> "An Audit and Settlement of the Estate of William Willett, dec'd, was returned and ordered to be recorded" (AccCoOrders, page 26).

Perhaps, John Willett, the brother of William and guardian of William's 5 children had died. Because, on Monday, July 28, 1845:

> "George P. Ewell is by the Court appointed guardian of Thomas, John, and William Willett, orphans of William Willett, dec'd, and

thereupon together with John R. Drummond and John E. Gray Securities thereto, entered into and acknowledged a Bond in the penalty of Five thousand dollars ($5,000) conditioned according to Law" (AccCoOrders 1842-1845, page 671).

Polly Willett had been widowed in the summer of 1837. In the 1840 census, she and her 5 children were living with her father-in-law, John Willett.

In the 1850 census, Polly Willett's real estate is valued at $1020.00, and a child, George Corde, Jr., age 1, is living in her household.

Polly died on August 25, 1893, of old age, and her death was recorded in the Peninsula Enterprise Newspaper.

"Mrs. Polly Willet, the oldest woman perhaps in the county of Accomac, died at the home of her son, Mr. John W. Willet, near Pastoria, on last Sunday. She joined the Methodist Church 74 years ago and was a consistent member of the same to the time of her death. She was held in high esteem by all who knew her. She was born in 1799" (Peninsula Enterprise Newspaper, dated September 2, 1893).

Actually she had been born about 1805, and thus would have been about 88 at her death. (1850 Accomack County, Virginia, census).

1. Ann: b abt 1827, Accomack County, Virginia. (1850 Accomack County census).

2. Sally: b abt 1830, Accomack County, Virginia. (1850 Accomack County census).

3. Thomas R: b May, 1833, Accomack County, Virginia; m January 5, 1859, Elishea Bell; d December 28, 1900. See next P.1.5.2.1.3.3. (1850, 1860 Accomack County, Virginia, census).

4. John W: b May, 1835, Accomack County, Virginia; m November 16, 1855, Mary Hickman. See next P.1.5.2.1.3.4. (1850, 1860 Accomack County, Virginia, census).

5. William M: b 1836, Accomack County, Virginia; m November 23, 1884, Annie Gladding. See next P.1.5.2.1.3.5. (1850, 1860 Acomack County, Virginia, census).

P.1.5.2.1.3.3

THOMAS R. WILLETT and ELISHA BELL of Woodstock, Accomack County, Virginia

Thomas R. Willett was born on May 20, 1833, in Accomack County, Virginia. He was orphaned at the age of 6, and raised by his mother, uncle, and grandfather. His uncle, John, was appointed guardian on May 27, 1839, Monday, Court Quarter Session:

"John Willett Jr is by the Court appointed Guardian to Ann, Sally, Thomas, John, and William Willett, orphans of William Willett, decd, and he thereupon together with John C. Hall and John R. Drummond his

securities thereunto entered into and acknowledged a Bond in the penalty of Five Hundred dollars conditioned according to Law" (page 520).

It is possible that John Willett, uncle to Thomas R., had died, and that his grandfather, John Willett, had been appointed his guardian. Thomas R. Willett's grandfather died in 1843 and left him some acreage just south of Hunting Creek and adjoining John R. Drummond's mill on the west. On July 28, 1845:

"George P. Ewell is by the Court appointed guardian of Thomas, John, and William Willett, orphans of William Willett, dec'd, and thereupon together with John R. Drummond and John E. Gray Securities thereto, entered into and acknowledged a Bond in the penalty of Five thousand dollars ($5,000) conditioned according to Law" (AccCoOrders 1842-1845, page 671).

April 28, 1851, Monday:

"An Account of Thomas Willett, with George P. Ewell, his guardian, having been filed by commissioner Samuel Melvin in the Clerk's Office, more than one month, was examined by the Court, Confirmed and ordered to be recorded" (AccCoOrders 1851-1854, page 3).

May 31, 1852, Monday, Court Quarter Session:

"An Account of Thomas Willett, with George P. Ewell, his guardian, having been filed by commissioner Samuel Melvin in the Clerk's Office, more than one month, was examined by the Court, Confirmed and ordered to be recorded" (AccCoOrders 1851-1854, page 211).

The last year that Thomas R. Willett was an orphan of the court was 1853. On June 27, 1853, Monday, is the last mention of Thomas R. Willett as an orphan.

"An Account of Thomas Willett, with George P. Ewell, his guardian, having been filed by commissioner Samuel Melvin in the Clerk's Office, more than one month, was examined by the Court, Confirmed and ordered to be recorded" (AccCoOrders 1851-1854, page 419).

On January 5, 1859, Thomas R. Willett married Elishea (Letitia, Lishey) A. Bell, age 17 (AccCoMar, page 9). Elishea A. Bell was born in November, 1843, the daughter of Thorogood and Catherine Lilliston Bell (m October 17, 1839) (Accomack Marriage Register No. 3, page 9, No. 5). In the 1850 census of Accomack County, St. George's Parish,

Thorogood Bell is listed as age 38, born in Accomack, occupation: sailor; along with his wife Catherine, age 35; Elatea (Elishea) age 7; and John E., age 4.

Woodstock (after 1878 known as Leemont) was just north of Thomas' home about a mile and through its suburb (if such a term can be applied to such a small and shallow landing) was the bayside port for the transportation of goods to and from a large community of farms that extended south from Onancock, east to Accomac Courthouse, and north to Bloxom. The Leemont that Thomas R. Willett lived in underwent a drastic change in its social structure during the war. Prior to the war the black community was just about totally integrated into the religious life of the community. There was a "sudden and virtually total defection of black members from the churches" of the Eastern Shore (Revival's Children, page 136). On April 12, 1866, a black man, James Johnson, was lynched in Pungoteague. "A few weeks later the possibility of another lynching arose in the area of Lee Mont when 300 white men at a public meeting swore vengeance on a black man who had attempted to murder a white" (Revival's Children, page 137). It took military intervention from Fort Monroe to calm the situation.

"Economically, too, it was a difficult period for man Eastern Shore whites. Although both Civil War and Reconstruction passed lightly over the Shore, in comparsion to many other parts of the South, still many a fortune had been loss, and many a family was struggling through hard times" (Revival's Children, page 144). Confederate feelings remained strong on the Eastern Shore, even after the war. When a post office was prposed for Woodstock, and the Post Office department in Washington rejected Woodstock as the post office name because of a conflict with another existing Woodstock in the Shenandoah Valley. The residents chose Leemont as the new name in honor of General Robert E. Lee.

The time just before the Civil War must have been hard on the farmers in Accomack County. The Court records are full of debt collections by the local merchants, during, and just after the war. And so it is with our Thomas. On April 2, 1862, Monday, Court Quarter Session:

> "Levin R. Ayres use of Thomas S. Parkes, Plt, against Thomas P. (it should be R.) Willett etc, Deft: In Debt: Same judgment in favor of the plaintiff against the defendants for Seventy five dollars ($75.00) with interest thereon from the 1st day of January, 1860, till payment, and his costs by him about his Suit in this behalf expended. And the Said defendants in Mercy etc" (AccCoOrders 1860-1863, page 513).

On March 29, 1866, Thursday, Court Quarter Session by Adjournment:

> "Anne Willett, Plff, against Thomas R. Willett, Deft: In Assumssit: This cause having been agreed the parties, it is ordered that the Same be dismissed" (page 127).

This case must have been a dispute over the inheritance due Anne.
On May 1, 1866, Tuesday, Court by Adjournment:

"A Deed from Thomas R. Willett to Upshur B. Quinby, trustee for John T. Powell, was acknowledged by the said Thomas R. as his act and deed, and ordered to be recorded" (AccCoOrders 1866, page 165).

On June 1, 1866, Friday, Court Quarter Session by Adjournment:

"Thomas R. Willett, Plt, against John W. Willett, Deft: In Trespass, Assault, and Battery: The defendant by John Neely, his attorney, says that he is not guilty of the trespass in the declaration mentioned, or any of them, in manner and form as the plaintiff against him has complained, and of this he puts himself upon the Country, and the plaintiff likewise. Whereon, on the motion of the defendant, it is ordered that the judgment entered against him in the office be set aside" (AccCoOrders 1866, page 210).

Since this suit was favorable to John W. Willett, it must have concerned property which had been inherited from either their father or grandfather.

The Civil War left many of the shore families impoverished. The Willett family was one of those impoverished. Evidently, prices were depressed and agricultural products could not be harvested and gotten to market. The impact came, not during the war, but afterwards when prewar debts could not be paid. A whole series of entries concern the Willett family in 1869. On September 10, 1869, Friday, Court Quarter Session by Adjournment:

"John R. Drummond and Oliver P. Drummond, merchants and partners, trading under the firm and Style of Drummond Bro; Pltffs, against John W. Willett, Deft: In Debt: Same Judgment in favor of the plaintiffs against the defendants for One hundred and four Dollars and eighty five cents ($104.85) with interest thereon from the thirty first day of December A.D. One thousand, eight hundred and fifty nine, till payment, and their costs by them about their suit in this behalf expended, and the said defendants in mercy etc" (AccCoOrders 1869-1870, page 268).

"John R. Drummond and Oliver P. Drummond, merchants and partners, trading under the firm and Style of Drummond Bro; Pltffs, against John W. Willett, Deft: In Debt: Same Judgment in favor of the plaintiffs against the defendants for Eighty Dollars and three cents ($80.03) with interest thereon from the first day of January A.D. One thousand, eight hundred and fifty nine, till payment, and their costs by them about their suit in this behalf expended, and the said defendants in mercy etc. The Plaintiff releases Twelve dollars and twenty five cents paid May 28th, 1860" (page 268).

"John R. Drummond and Oliver P. Drummond, merchants and partners, trading under the firm and Style of Drummond Bro; Pltffs, against Thomas R. Willett, Deft: In Debt: Same Judgment in favor of the

plaintiffs against the defendants for Sixty nine Dollars and forty two cents ($69.42) with interest thereon from the thirty first day of December A.D. One thousand, eight hundred and fifty nine, till payment, and their costs by them about their suit in this behalf expended, and the said defendants in mercy etc. The Plaintiff releases interest to 1st day of January 1863 paid May 2d 1863; Also Four Dollars and sixteen cents one years interest paid February 4th; Also one years interest Four Dollars and sixteen cents paid September 25th, 1865" (page 269).

"Thomas D. Lewis and Oliver P. Drummond, late merchants and partners, trading under the firm and Style of Lewis and Drummond, Pltffs, against Thomas R. Willett, Deft: In Debt: Same Judgment in favor of the plaintiffs against the defendants for Ninety nine Dollars and fourteen cents ($99.14) with interest thereon from the first day January A.D. One thousand, eight hundred and fifty seven, till payment, and their costs by them about their suit in this behalf expended, and the said defendants in mercy etc. The Plaintiff releases two years interest Eleven dollars and eighty nine cents ($11.89) paid January 1st, 1859" (page 269).

"Benjamin T. Gunter, Pltff, against Thomas R. Willett, Deft: In Debt: Same Judgment in favor of the plaintiffs against the defendant for Thirty Seven Dollars and fifty cents, with interest thereon from the twenty ninth day of May A.D. One thousand, eight hundred and fifty six, till payment, and their costs by them about their suit in this behalf expended, and the said defendants in mercy etc" (page 273).

It is obvious from these suits to recover debts which were incurred before the Civil War that Thomas R. Willett was impoverished by the war.

In 1900, Alonzo Mason, age 17, was listed as a granson, and Eva Clyne, age 18, was listed as a granddaughter. Thomas R. and Elishea Willett had been married for over 40 years. Thomas R. Willett died December 28, 1900. His obituary was in the Peninsula Enterprise Newpaper, Accomack Courthouse, on January 5, 1901:

"Mr. Thomas R. Willett, a respected citizen, died Friday, 28th ult., after a protracted illness at his home, near Leemont, aged 67 years. Internment in family burying ground near that village-funeral services by Rev. C. K. McCaslin. He leaves a wife, 5 sons, Charles, Thomas, John William, Obadiah, and Albert, and a daughter, Mrs. John Kriner, of Baltimore."

Elishea (Bell) Willett, widow, married on December 29, 1903, as her 2d husband, Oliver D. Lewis (b 1851) of Leemont, Accomack Virginia. She died August 1, 1916, and is buried in the Liberty Cemetery, Parksley, Virginia, beside her 1st husband, Thomas R. Willett.

The "family burying ground" mentioned in Thomas R. Willett's obituary is in the Liberty Cemetery in Parksley, Virginia. There are 5 gravestones standing in a row facing Jones Avenue. They are inscribed as follows:

1. "Dasy Willett/ December 31, 1883/ December 31, 1885/ ..."

2. "Elicia Willett/ November 14, 1870/ August 7, 1872/ One sweet flower has dropped and faded."

3. "Sallie E. Rothance/ Died November 27, 1895/ Age 33 years/ ..."

4. "Thomas R. Willett/ May 20, 1833/ December 22, 1900/ ..."

5. "Elicia A. Lewis/ November 19, 1842/ July 31, 1916/ Sleep and take thy rest, you were taken, but God knows best."

(1860, 1870, 1880, 1900 Accomack County, Virginia, census).

1. Charles E: b February, 1859, Accomack County; m January 22, 1866, Susan R. Lewis; d after 1901. (1880, 1900 Accomack County census). See next P.1.5.2.1.3.3.1.

2. Thomas R(obert): b April 11, 1861, Accomack County; m September 8, 1897, Virginia E. (b 1866); resided in Leemont. (1880 Accomack County census). See next P.1.5.2.1.3.3.2.

3. Sarah (Sadie) F: b April 11, 1863; m John Kriner of Baltimore, Maryland. (1880 Accomack County census).

4. Catherine (Kate) W: b June 4, 1865; m Nagle of Baltimore, Maryland. (1880 Accomack County census).

5. Elicia: b November 14, 1870; d August 7, 1872. Assumed to be an infant death of this family due to being buried in the Thomas R. Willett family plot in Liberty Cemetery, Parksley.

6. William (Willie) J: b July 6, 1875; m March 13, 1895, Libbie M. (b November 25, 1859; resided in Leemont; d February 19, 1935); d January 23, 1941. Both, William and Libbie M. Willett, are buried in the Liberty Cemetery, Parksley, in a family plot. Alva E. Willett is buried beside them. (1880 Accomack County census). See next P.1.5.2.1.3.3.7.

7. Obadiah Wise: b May 5, 1877; m 1900 Sarah H. (b 1884). (1880 Accomack County census). See next P.1.5.2.1.3.3.7.

8. John T: b August, 1878; m August 1, 1894, Mary E. Lloyd (b 1863); lived in Hopkins and Justisville, Virginia, and Chriswell, Maryland; d 1941. See next P.1.5.2.1.3.3.8.

9. Alva E: b May 18, 1880; m January 18, 1903, Ida M. (b 1889); d 1951. (1880, 1900 Accomack County census). See next P.1.5.2.1.3.3.9.

10. Daisey: b December 31, 1883; d December 31, 1885, of malaria (Death Records 1853-1896, Accomack County, unindexed).

P.1.5.2.1.3.3.1

CHARLES E. WILLETT and SUSAN R. LEWIS of Leemont, Accomack County, Virginia

Charles E. Willett was born near Woodstock (now Leemont) in February, 1859. It is possible that he grew up on the old Charles C. Willett farm of 21 acres at the head of Hunting Creek. Whether he lived here or not, he had to have grown up within a half mile of the present Leemont. Charles worked as an oysterman and possibly as a cooper. In 1880, he was living with his parents.

Charles E. Willett married on January 22, 1886, at the age of 25, Susan R. Lewis, age 17, the daughter of James Lewis of Accomack (AccCoMar 1853-1896, page 88). When he married, he listed his occupation as liquour dealer. At one time there was a Willett General Store at the intersection in Leemont, just opposite the Willett Store which is there today (1985). The old two-storey building remains in use as a house. Perhaps this is where Charles sold liquour. They made their home "near" Leemont, possibly on the old Charles C. Willett homestead. All of Charles' brothers settled in the small farming village of Leemont. The Leemont post office was in a very small one room building just west of the Willett store (across the street from the present Willett Store). The postmaster was B. H. Johnson. The principal farmers near Leemont were Parker W. Parks, Revel J. Lewis, E. S. Curtis, and David Mason. There were 2 coach and wagon makers (E. T. Coard and A. J.McCready), 4 general merchants (Hopkins Brothers and Company, D. H. Johnson and Company, J. C. Justice and Company, and J. T. White), a hotel (Isaiah T. Johnson, 3 millinery shops (Mrs. S. Causey, Mrs. M. E. Grant, and Miss Louisa Johnson), 2 mills (Fletcher Drummonds and A. D. T. Ewell), and one undertaker (John F. Hope). (Chataigne's Virginia Gazetteer and Classified Business Director 1890-1891, 1890).

Susan died of an illness. She was only 22. Her obituary is in the Peninsula Enterprise Newpaper, Accomack Courthouse, on February 28, 1891:

> "Mrs. Susan Willet, wife of Charles Willett, died at her residence near Leemont, last Saturday, of la grippe, aged 22 years."

Susan is reputedly buried in Bethelem, Pennsylvania. The reason for her burial in Pennsylvania is not known. In 1900, Charles E. Willett was living with his parents and had listed his occupation as oysterman. His son, John Edward Willett, was being raised by his sister-in-law, in Northampton County. It is unknown what happened to Sybil T. Willett during this period. Charles E. Willett was last mentioned in the 1901 Accomack County Personal Property Tax Records for Metompkin District. It is family tradition that Charles E. Willett was staying in an Allentown, Pennsylvania, apartment and died accidently when a gaslight leaked fumes in his apartment. It is believed that he is buried in Allentown, Pennsylvania. Possibly, he was in Allentown on a buying or selling trip. (One member of the family thinks Charles E. Willett died in Salisbury, Maryland).

1. Sybil T: b January 25, 1886, Accomack County; m Sainzon; resided in Baltimore, Maryland; mentioned as heir and granddaughter of Alicia A. Lewis on August 17, 1916; mentioned as heir and great neice of Oliver D. Lewis on March 16, 1921.

2. John Edward: b April 13, 1890, Accomack County; m 1911 Sophia Marie Tremper; d March 5, 1960, Hampton, Virginia. See next P.1.5.2.1.3.3.1.2.

P.1.5.2.1.3.3.1.2
JOHN EDWARD WILLETT and SOPHIE MARIE TREMPER
of Cape Charles, Northampton County, and Hampton, Virginia

John Edward Willett was born on April 13, 1890, in Accomack County at Hopkins (near Leemont), Accomack County, Virginia. His mother, Susan, died on Saturday, February 22, 1891, when John was only 10 months old. His father permitted his sister-in-law, Mary (Lewis) Barnes, to raise John Edward. There is a family tradition that he was raised by the Parramore family of Eastville, Northampton County. He lived with the William Barnes family of Capr Charles, Northampton, and possibly spent a lot of time living with the Parks family. Most likely these were near relations to his mother's side of the family. John Willett's grandfather was still living when he was orphaned, as was his four uncles. It is unknown why he did not live in one of these households when he was orphaned.

In the 1900 census for Northampton County, he is listed as being away at school while living with the William (Will) Barnes family. He is called "nephew." William Barnes married Mary Lewis on December 22, 1875. Mary (Lewis) Barnes was a sister to Susan R. Lewis. They were children of James and Mary Lewis. William Barnes was born in May, 1851. He was an oyster dealer. The Barnes children were Elisha F. Barnes (b July, 1878; m William A. Parkes), Lillian Barnes (b December, 1880; m March 3, 1903, Larry Disharoon), Willie H. Barnes (b June, 1882), and Grover C. Barnes (b September, 1884; d April 15, 1919).

The William Z. Parkes and Elisha F. (Barnes) Parkes children were Thomas S. Parks (b January, 1895), Appleton J. Parks (b July, 1897), and a daughter (b May, 1900). A "Tom" Parks, and an "Appy" Parks lived at Cape Charles, Northampton County, and were friends of John Edward Willett. John E. Willett named one of his children (possibly) after the Grover Barnes he grew up with.

John Edward Willett's father died (most likely) in 1901.

John Willett met Sophia Marie Tremper in 1905 when she came to the Eastern Shore of Virginia to a family summer house. She was the daughter of Fred Tremper and Rosa Fredricka Otter (died August, 1905). Because of anti-German sentiment then prevalent the family name was changed from the original Trumper to the more English sounding Tremper. Her family moved around and lived at various times in Pleasantville, New Jersey; Philadelphi, and Allentown, Pennsylvania; Kentucky, and finally Charles City County, Virginia. John Willett is reputed as intending to elope with Sophia Marie Tremper (according to the recollection of her sister in 1982 and 1983). In 1910 or early 1911 at Cape Charles, the local minister stopped them from running off to be married, and performed the ceremony against the wishes of her father. Her brother was Louis Tremper of Charles City County, Virginia, who was extremely well-to-do, and owned a lumber mill and thousands of acres of timber in Charles City County. He kept a summer cottage at Buckroe.

Sophia Marie Tremper was born in Charles City County, Virginia, October 5, 1892, and died May 25, 1985. Sophia had a brother, Louis Tremper, who was living in Richmond, Virginia, in 1933.

For a while John Willett was a pilot for ships; he used to take parties out duck hunting. He really enjoyed his hunting and had eight shotguns which he brought across the bay to Hampton. John built and sailed boats up and down the Cheaspeake Bay. He had crab pots and would harvest soft shell crabs. One of the family stories has Sophie Marie going out to the crab pots and taking the newly soft-shelled crabs home to cook. John would come along later and see the hard shells that the crabs had shed and think someone was stealing from his crab pots. It was not until years later that Sophie told her husband that she was the one who "stole" soft shell crabs from his pots. Most of their "first" set of children were born at Cape Charles. However, concerning John

Willett's occupation when he was first married, he always listed his occupation, on his children's birth certificates (1913-1917), as carpenter.

It is possible (but not too likely) that John Edward Willett worked for his uncle, John T. Willett near Leemont at the landing to Hunting Creek called Hopkins. There is a family tradition of a local storm, possibly a tornado, which destroyed the apartment of John Edward and Sophia (Tremper) Willett which was over a dock. However, family tradition places the apartment in Eastville near were he was raised. John Edward and Sophia lost everything he owned except for one boat. This storm would have been in 1917-1918, and is remembered by the older residents of Leemont as a tornado which killed a man and several farm animals and uprooted trees.

When the war came, work was scarce. Several of the young men came over to the Peninsula to work on the construction projects. Willett, Beazley, and Graham, came over to work on the Hilton Village construction project. John brought his wife and 5 young children across the Cheaspeake Bay in an open work boat. All the family possessions were loaded in that one boat. John Edward and Sophia Marie (Tremper) Willett moved from the Eastern Shore to Hampton, Virginia, in 1918, and lived at 719 Locust Road near the old Hampton Depot. John would "catch" the train at the Hampton Depot and ride to Newport News. There the train had to pull into the big freight and coal yard. In doing so it would back nearly to the Hilton Village project. John Willett would jump off and then walk the rest of the way to work. At some point, John sold the eight shotguns he had brought to Hampton from Cape Charles.

For several years John Edward Willett operated with Irby Johnson the old box and barrel factories. The box factory was just across the track from the depot. The box factory was across the Locust Street from Willett's house and had its own siding. Lewis Tremper would sent a whole box car full of lumber to Charles Willett's barrel factory. There was a monument company between the depot and the box factory. The barrel factory had a big old gasoline motor on the outside, and a large electric motor on the inside. Both ran a single long conveyor belt from the out doors along the entire lenght of the factory. This belt worked overhead pulleys which provided the power to turn the machinery inside. For years, Hampton depot was the only railway siding for unloading and loading in the area.

John and Sophie bought a lot out in the Wythe district sometime after arriving in Hampton. It was necessary in 1921 and 1922 for John Willett to borrow some money against the lot, probably for the purpose of financing his box factory operation. It was not unusual to get very large orders for boxes which much exceeded the normal capacity of the factory.

> Sophie M. Willett, et vir. to Nelson S. Groome, Trustee ... "This Deed, Made this 11th day of March, Year 1921, between Sophie M. Willett and John E. Willett, her husband, of the city of Hampton ... etc ... all that certain lot, piece parcel of land, located in Wythe District, Elizabeth City County, Virginia, Known and described as lot No. 6, as Shown on a map or plat entitled A Map of a part of Middleboro made by G. Chambers, C.E., 1916, and recorded in Deed Book 53, at page 156, in the Clerk's Office ... In trust to secure ... the sum of One Hundred Dollars ($100.00)." Paid in full 1 Aug 1921 (Hampton Trust Deed Book 54, page 257).

> Sophie M. Willett, et vir. to Nelson S. Groome, Trustee: "This Deed, Made this 28th day of January, Year 1922, between Sophie M. Willett

> and John E. Willett, her husband, of the city of Hampton ... etc ... all that certain lot, piece parcel of land, located in Wythe District, Elizabeth City County, Virginia, Known and described as lot No. 6, as Shown on a map or plat entitled A Map of a part of Middleboro made by G. Chambers, C.E., 1916, and recorded in Deed Book 53, at page 156, in the Clerk's Office ... In trust to secure ... the sum of One Hundred Dollars and fifty ($150.00)." Paid in full July 22, 1922 (Hampton Trust Deed Book 56, page 35).

Sophie Marie Willett used to attend the Methodist Church in Hampton next to the Post Office. She became very sick and while sick, no one came to visit her in her illness. Afterwards, she decided to go to St. John's Church in Hampton and most of her children were baptized there. Old Doctor Parker was the family doctor. He delivered most of the Willett children for the next several generations.

John Willett moved to Mallory Avenue near the corner of King Street just two houses away from what was later Fertitia's Store. In the 1930s, a Lillian Disharoom who was called "aunt" used to come over from the Shore to visit with the John Willett family. She lived at Cape Charles, Northampton County, on Monroe Street in a big old house. There was a Lillian Barnes in William Barnes family and perhaps she was the "aunt" Lillian who used to visit. Her husband was the superintendent of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad for the Eastern Shore. John Willett would pick her up at the Old Point Ferry and she would spent all day visiting. Her relationship to the family is unknown. Lillian died about 1961 and Charles and Little Joe went over to the Shore for her funeral. John Edward Willett is never known to have set foot back on the Eastern Shore. His wife and the older children went back during the summer for visits. Sophie would take Susan over to stay a week a "Aunt" Lillian's and then come back a week later pick up Susan and leave Charles.

Later, in 1928, John Willett built a house at the corner of 528 Celey Street and Shell Road. This was also known as Route 1, Box 105B, Hampton, Virginia. At this time there was very few other houses in the area, and Shell Road was known as County Line Road. He moved there before the Depression, and lived in this house until his death in 1960. The house remained in the possession of the sons of Mr. Willett until it was finally sold in 1980. Mr. Willett had two sets of children by his first wife. My father, Albert James Willett, was the eight child and the "baby" of the first set of children.

Sophie Marie had a time raising 7 young boys who seemed to be always fighting. John Willett built a little building beside his Celey Street house. Sophie Marie ran a combination store and gas station until her death. Sophia Marie (Tremper) Willett died May 25, 1935, and is buried in the churchyard of St. Luke's in Hampton, Virginia. Afterwards, John rented the store. John Willett would sell Christmas trees on his little store lot. One year, "Preacher" dressed in a Santa Claus suit. The results were predictable.

John Edward Willett married 2d at Yorktown, Virginia, on December 30, 1936, Margaret Ann (Pat) Wallace, the daughter of James Henry and Mary Catherine (Crawford) Wallace.

John Edward Willett died March 5, 1960, and is buried beside his first wife. His 4th son, John Edward Willett, Jr., and his 2d wife, Margaret Ann (Pat) Wallace are buried in the same plot.

The above picture is of the Willett family. In the top row is John Junior, Paul, "Big" Joe, John Willett, Senior, Sophie Marie, Charles and the only daughter, Susan Louise beside her mother; Albert James Willett is the first child on the front row left, then there is George Keith, "Little" Joe, Robert, Ralph, and Grover.

1. Susan Louise: b March 9, 1912, at Cape Charles, Northampton County, Virginia; m in Warwick County, Virginia, on March 5, 1938, Jesse Thomas Owens (b February 4, 1915; d April 30, 1984); he was a soldier who listed his residence as Fort Monroe, Virginia, the son of Edward Thomas Owens and Lillie Delle Harris; d January 4, 1954, at age 41 of cancer. Both are buried in the Peninsula Memorial Park Cemetery, on Nettles Road, Newport News, Virginia.

1. Sophia Marie Owens; b abt 1940; m James Kivistek.

2. Charles Edward (Charlie): b January 28, 1913, at Cape Charles, Northampton County, on the Eastern Shore, Virginia; m Esma Elizabeth Topping; resides on Odd Road in Poquoson, Virginia; he has a great passion for hunting; retired from the Newport News Shipbuilding and Dry Dock Company. See next P.1.5.2.1.3.3.1.2.2.

3. Francis Joseph (Big Joe): b March 8, 1914, at Cape Charles, Northampton County, on the Eastern Shore, Virginia; m February 6, 1937, in Elizabeth City County (presently the city of Hampton), Virginia, Mamie Estelle Foster (Book 4-21); they resided at 520 Ivy Street, Hampton. See next P.1.5.2.1.3.3.1.2.3.

4. John (Johnny) Edward, Jr: b April 26, 1915, at Cape Charles, Northampton County, on the Eastern Shore of Virginia; served in W W II in North Africa, and Italy; m Nellie

Kouse (b May 25, 1918); a carpenter; d February 4, 1965, and is buried in the family plot at St. John's Church in Hampton, Virginia; no issue.

5. Paul Frederick: b August 25, 1916, at Cape Charles, Northampton County, Virginia; m in Elizabeth City County, Virginia, June 26, 1952, Christine Lawrence Andrews (b 5 Jun 1916 Athens, Alabama) daughter of James John and Mattie (Miller) Lawrence of 301 Creek Avenue, Hampton; he worked as a carpenter and contractor.

1. James Vernon Andrews: (stepchild).

2. Judy Kaye Andrews: (stepchild); m Turner.

6. Robert Williamson ("Preacher"): b abt 1917 on Locust Street, Hampton, Virginia; unmarried.

7. Grover Cleveland: b July 18, 1919, at Locust Street in Hampton, Virginia; m April 5, 1948, Doris Elliot (b December 19, 1926).

1. Darlene Renne:

8. Albert James: b September 15, 1920; m May 3, 1942, Mamie Rose Gilbert of Poquoson, Virginia. See next P.1.5.2.1.3.3.1.2.8.

9. George Keith: b September 4, 1927, on "Old" Mallory Street in Hampton, Virginia; m 1963 in Elizabeth City, North Carolina, Mattie; divorced; no children.

10. Joseph Williamson (Little Joe): b February 19, 1929, at Celey Street, Hampton, Virginia; m in Elizabeth City, North Carolina, on September 19, 1959, Barbara Taylor (b April 20, 1933, in Welford, West Virginia). See next P.1.5.2.1.3.3.1.2.10.

11. Ralph Tremper: b July 21, 1930; m in Gloucester, Virginia, on November 19, 1960, Jacqueline Ann White (b Scranton, Pennsylvania), the daughter of Richard Sanford White and Rose Ann Baldwin; they were divorced and remarried on 2d July 26, 1982, Jacqueline Ann (White) Willett (b May 17, 1935); he was a bookkeeper and a carpenter. See next P.1.5.2.1.3.3.1.2.11.

12. James (Jimmie) Harvey: b in 1939 or 1940; m Grace Cantar.

1. Deborah Ann:

2. Ralph Edward:

3. Dennis James: b 1961 in Florida; m in Gloucester County, Virginia, on October 5, 1980, Debra Kay Hall (b 1962 in Virginia), the daughter of James Lawson Hall and Edna Frances Walker; they resided in Gloucester.

4. Steven Wayne:

13. Shirley Marie: b in 1941 or 1942; m 1st Carl Tetter, Jr; m 2d after 1959 Francis Ray Dale.

1. Susan Marie Tetter: b 4 Nov 1957.

2. Patricia Ann Tetter: b 1 Aug 1959.

14. Thomas (Tommy) Edward: b abt 1943.

Sophie Marie Tremper, 1910, age 18
within the year she married John Edward Willett

P.1.5.2.1.3.3.1.2.2

CHARLES EDWARD WILLETT and ESMA ELIZABETH TOPPING of Poquoson, Virginia

Charles Edward (Charlie) Willett was born on January 28, 1913, at Cape Charles, Virginia. His parents were living in a little apartment over a dock at this time. His father moved across the Cheaspeake Bay to Hampton in 1917. At the age of 15 he went to work with the Virginia Engineering Company (now Basic Construction Company) and help to built the Hiden Warehouses on Warwick Boulevard; then help construct warehouses for the Cheaspeake and Ohio Railroad, Medical Arts Building and Newport News Public Library on West Avenue, and the Norfolk Adminstration Building at the Navy Yard. In 1933, as the depression was ending, Charles went into the Civilian Conservation Corps and worked at Fork's Run Camp (north of Staunton, Virginia).

Charles married on January 22, 1934, Esma Elizabeth Topping (b July 14, 1914), age 19, of Odd, Virginia, daughter of W. J. Topping and Mary Elizabeth Cox. They met at the old Fischerman's 5 and 10 Cent store. The Poquoson girls would come over to Hampton on a Saturday night just to sit in the store and listen to the records, and this is how they met.

He was a carpenter and lived at Route 1, Box 105B, Hampton, Virginia, when he was married. They have lived most of their married life on Odd Road in Poquoson, Virginia. in the house that Esma was born in. He worked at the Newport News and Dry Dock Company and retired from there. Charlie has a great love for hunting and fishing.

1. Betty Lou: b January 28, 1935, in Odd, Virginia; m Wesley Gosling.

    1. Michael Gosling: b January 2, 1966.

2. Mary LaVern: b January 1, 1948, at the "old" Dixie Hospital in Hampton, Virginia; m Bruce Poe.

    1. Kenneth: b February 14, 1969.

    2. April: b July 31, 1978.

P.1.5.2.1.3.3.1.2.3

FRANCIS JOSEPH WILLETT and MAMIE ESTELLE FOSTER of Elizabeth City, Virginia

Francis Joseph (Big Joe) Willett was born at Cape Charles, Virginia. As a small child he came to Hampton, Virginia, and lived, first, at 719 Locust Street, and then 528 Celey Avenue. He married on February 6, 1937, in Elizabeth City County (presently the city of Hampton), Virginia, Mamie Estelle Foster (Book 4-21)

They resided at 520 Ivy Street, Hampton. Mamie Willett died about 1970.

1. Francis Joseph, Jr: m in Hampton, Virginia, on October 1, 1953, 1st Dorothy Ruth Perry, age 21, daughter of Samuel Foreman and Esther May (Carr) Perry of 516 Ivy Street, Hampton; m 2d Juanita.

    1. Bobby.

    2. (son).

    3. (3) daughters.

2. Barbara Ann: b 1937 in Norfolk, Virginia; m in Warwick County, Virginia, on September 25, 1954, John Gordon Patrick (b 1935), the son of Douglas Gordon Patrick and Virginia Lorraine West.

3. Bobby:

4. Steven:

    1. Patricia (Patty):

    2. (son):

5. Edward Lee: m April 28, 1962, Edith Francis Hallett.

    1. Jenny Lynn: b May 20, 1963.

    2. Michael Anthony: b February 28, 1967.

6. Cecil:

P.1.5.2.1.3.3.1.2.8
ALBERT JAMES WILLETT and MAMIE ROSE GILBERT
of Hampton and York County, Virginia

Albert James Willett was born on September 15, 1920, at 719 Locust Avenue in Hampton, Virginia. He grew up here in old Hampton just one block from the train depot and his father's barrel and box factory. He attended the old Syms-Easton School. His father built a new house at 528 Celey Avenue about 1930, and Albert then went to the old brick Elemetary Wythe School on Kecoughtan Road. The new house on Celey was out in the middle of no where at that time. There were marshes to the north and west, Shell Road (then County Line Road) was just a dirt road. The old Celey Avenue wound its way between Hampton and Newport News.

Before Albert came into his teens, the depression started. Albert was one of a family of eleven children. Franklin Delano Roosevelt had come into office in 1932 promising a "New Deal" for the depression weary nation. As part of that "New Deal" the nation began talking in abbrevations; there was FDR for the President, AAA, NLRB, and NRA. These stood for the Agricultural Adjustment Administration, National Labor Relations Board, and National Recovery Adminstration. Another abbrevation which came to mean a lot for the Willett family was CCC (Civilian Conservation Corps) which put young men to work as foresters. Albert, and Grover joined in June, 1935. Albert was sent to Camp Number Two, Camp Robert Feckner at Big Meadows on the Skyline Drive. His brother, Grover, was at Camp Number One. Their brother, Charles, joined the CCC later. Today, Big Meadows is situated at milepost 51 on the Skyline Drive. It is situated on a high plateau looking over the beautiful Shenandoah Valley. There atop the mountains, he, his brother, and other young men were put to work building the Skyline Drive. Rock had to be blasted away from the mountain side to create a level space wide enough for the new road. Most work was done by hand. For living in a barracks community Albert received for himself the magnificent sum of $5.00 a month; and $25.00 a month was sent to his family. Even though the work was hard and the conditions harsh by our standards, the Civilian Conservation Corp created hope in a whole new generation. A youth could only stay for 18 months and then had to leave. It was an unforgetable experience which encompassed two winters on the mountain slopes were the rugged beauty of the Blue Ridge can be clearly seen in this clearest, brightest, and crisp time of the year. Albert came to love the mountains he worked on and the Skyline Drive he help build. He returned home in March, 1937.

Albert joined a second time in September, 1937, and was sent to Camp P 350 at New Castle (this is close to Roanoke, on Barbara's Creek), where he stayed until 1939. Nearly every year since his marriage, Albert has made a pilgrimage in the autumn of the year, when the trees are beginning to change color and shed there summer foliage, to these mountains, the drive, and the camps. The Civilian Conservation Corps was not abolished until after the United States had entered World War II, and there was no longer a shortage of work and a surplus of labor. The Corps should not be forgotten.

Today's age is one of television; Albert grew up in an age of theaters and bands. The old Palace Theater was opened in 1917 and razed in 1940. The Wythe Theater was built in 1939. "The Jeff-Briar Skating Rink was remodeled and added to the Gordon Enterprises and for a short time in 1941 was operated as a dance hall presenting such noted bands as Harry James, Charles Spivak, Louis Armstrong, and Tony Pastor to local enthusiaçiats" (Newport News, page 197). Motion picture theaters did not come to the Peninsula until October 2, 1930, when the old Academy of Music Building was taken over by Publix Theaters and had its first run on October 2, 1931 (Newport News, page 193). Until 1937, the Langely Theater in Hampton was owned by the Litchman Theaters Circuit; the old Rex Theater on King Street was then the Apollo Theater.

In 1939, Drucker and Falk, promoted the Wythe Shopping Center on Kecoughtan Road. "This was the first commercial development on this busy thoroughfare and the first complete parking and shopping center on the Peninsula" (Newport News, page 163).

The war had begun. His brothers, John (served in Italy), Robert ("Preacher") (served in the Pacific and Germany), and Grover (served in Germany), joined the Army; Paul served in the Pacific in the Air Force.

Albert Willett married on May 3, 1942, Mamie Rose Gilbert (b March 30, 1926), the daughter of Rosanna Martin (b March 6, 1907, in Poquoson, Virginia) and Harley Theodore Gilbert (b 25 October, 1904, in Emmas, Pennsylvania). It was only a short 3 months later when, Albert's left eye was struck by a nail head while he was fixing up the little house in his father's back yard on Celey Street. Mamie had to make the decision to remove the eye (a large decision for a new bride of 17). Albert and Mamie lived in an apartment on Victoria Boulevard and Shell Road in Hampton for a while.

The war created the "big" temporary housing projects. Ferguson Park at the James River Bridge, Stuart Gardens at the site of the old Camp Stuart, and Copeland Park, were begun and mostly completed by July 1, 1943. These were slated to be torn down 2 years after the President decreed the state of emergency (World War II) was over. These temporary housing projects outlived many of their "temporary" inhabitants and were the first homes of many of the wartime generation. After the war, the government backed large scale housing projects. Albert built several of the post war housing projects. In Lynchburg, Virginia, he built 400 at the Thomas Hill Road project, he built some in Fairfax, Virginia, and in 1947 he started building in West Hampton at New England, and then in 1949 began to build 190 houses at Cherry Acres initially. Later he built an additional 93, and then another 50. The war was over, and the special federal funding was ending for these houses; and this type of construction ended with the cutoff in federal funding.

Albert bought a house on Brightwood Avenue which backed up to the Car Barns. There was a large yard bounded by the old street car tracks. However, both the large yard and the street car tracks gave way for the construction of Victoria Boulevard into a modern four lane divided highway. Joe Cross lived next door, and Mr. Tucker, and Captain Robbins lived across the street. About 1949, he built a new home on 509 Lewis Avenue (now Brightwood Avenue). It was a small 4 room white frame house with a picket fence around the back yard.

In 1953, he built a brick rancher at 302 Powhatan Parkway in Wythe. He has been a private contractor building single family dwellings from his marriage until 1974. In 1974, it was discovered that he had cancer. After successfully recovering, he has founded Mini-Barns of Virginia, Inc.

In 1969, Albert Willett built the 2 storey brick colonial home at 2 Myers Road, Tabb, York County, Virginia, where he now resides.

1. Albert J. Willett, Jr: b June 13, 1944; m May 8, 1963, Diane Lynn Myers daughter of Raymond Otis and Ruth (Pugh) Myers. Educated at Armstong Elementary School, Hampton, Virginia, and Hampton High School, where he met his wife. She was 14, and their first meeting at Willis-Syms Eaton Junior High School during a summer "sock hop" has never been forgotten. Their first words shared together were a very unromantic and very unpromising: "Hi! Grandma, you wanna dance." They have lived at 18 Mansford Drive, Hampton, Virginia; 8 Yorkshire Road, Tabb, York County, Virginia; 705 York Road, Fayetteville, North Carolina; Route 1, Surry, Virginia; Nellingen Kaserne, Stuttgart, Germany; 438 Hallmark Road, Fayetteville, North Carolina; and currently at 209 Irvin Road, Smithfield, Virginia, 23430. Albert Willett joined the army for training as an

aviation Warrant Officer in 1968; served in Vietnam, June, 1969, to June, 1970; South Korea in 1973; and Stuttgart, Germany, from May, 1980, until May, 1983.

1. Albert James, III: b November 24, 1965, in Hampton Virginia; graduate of Patch High School, Stuttgart, Germany in 1983; attended Fayetteville Technical College in North Carolina, and Christopher Newport College in Virginia. He is studying to be a teacher. He was a hyper-active child, and it is only fitting and "poetic justice" that he is learning in college about hyper-active children and children with learning disabilities.

2. Karen Diane: b December 15, 1969, in Hampton, Virginia, while her father was in Vietnam; the first girl in this line of the Willett family since 1912. In 1985, her most important dream is turning 15 years and 9 months old.

2. Robert Edward: b April 30, 1948, Hampton, Virginia; m March 2, 1968, Dreama Diane Shields (b December 30, 1946); lives on Patrick Creek Road, Grafton, York County, Virginia. "Bobby" is a great outdoorsman and hiker.

1. Robert Albert: b November 16, 1968.

3. Charles Terry: b August 6, 1953, in Hampton, Virginia; m 1st June 23, 1972, Brenda Kaye Briley; divorced; m 2d November 29, 1982, Brenda Leigh Carmack; lives in Smithfield, Virginia; a self-employed contractor.

1. Charles Albert: b July 31, 1983, Smithfield, Virginia.

4. William Kieth: b November 7, 1955; m 1st September 29, 1973, Terri Noel Priode, divorced; m 2d June 8, 1979, Jean Melson Rowe, divorced; m 3d May 29, 1982, Cindy Ann Smith; Kieth is a Deputy Sheriff of York County.

1. William Lance: b December 24, 1976.

2. Heather Jessica: b February 22, 1983.

P.1.5.2.1.3.3.1.2.10
JOSEPH WILLIAMSON WILLETT and BARBARA TAYLOR of Hampton, Virginia

Joseph Williamson (Little Joe) Willett was born on February 19, 1929, at Celey Street, Hampton, Virginia. He was baptized at St. John's Church in downtown Hampton. When Little Joe was about 4, he lit a match and dropped it down the fuel tank of an old abandoned truck. It exploded and burned, and Little Joe was too scared to run. His leg was badly burnt. His brother, Big John pulled him out of the truck. He stayed in school at Armstrong, Wythe, and Morrison High School until the 8th grade. About 15 he, and his brother Albert, went to room with his sister Susan Louise Owens.

Joseph Willett, and his brother Albert, went to work in Lynchburg in 1946 on the post war housing projects. Joseph served in the United States Army for 18 months in 1947 and 1948, and served at Fort Lewis, Washington. He worked in Washington, D. C., in 1949 and 1950. His brother, Albert, was working there on post war housing at the same time. Joseph was a merchant seaman from 1949 until 1957. Joseph Willett married in Elizabeth City, North Carolina, on September 19, 1959, Barbara Taylor (b April 20, 1933, in Welford, West Virginia).

He began working at the Newport News Shipbuilding and Dry Dock Company in 1962.

1. Lisa: b January 14, 1964; m David Weddle.

    1. David Joseph: b October 8, 1984.

2. Carolyn Sue: b July 3, 1952; m September, 1973, Randolph G. Clem.

    1. Dawnette Michele: b December 21, 1978.

P.1.5.2.1.3.3.1.2.11
RALPH TREMPER WILLETT and JACQUELINE ANN WHITE of Hampton, Virginia

Ralph Tremper Willett was born on July 21, 1930, at Celey Avenue, Hampton, Virginia. He was baptized at St. John's Church in Hampton.

Ralph joined the Army (1949-1953) and instructed ship carpentery at Fort Eustis, Virginia. He married 1st in Gloucester County, Virginia, on November 19, 1960, Jacqueline Ann White (b Scranton, Pennsylvania), the daughter of Richard Sanford White and Rose Ann Baldwin. They were divorced and remarried on July 26, 1982.

He is a bookkeeper and a carpenter.

1. Richard Andrew:

2. Mary Louise:

3. Rose:

4. Annie:

P.1.5.2.1.3.3.2

THOMAS R. WILLETT and VIRGINIA LEWIS of Leemont, Accomack County, Virginia

Thomas R. Willett was born on April 11, 1861, in Accomack County, Virginia and lived in Leemont. His house faced the Bayside Road and was the second house before the lane on the left as you come into Leemont.

Leemont was a focal point for a sizeable farming community on the Eastern Shore. Agriculture was the main industry, but there was also some fishing, oystering and lumbering. The small landing at Hopkins, a half mile west of Leemont, was the avenue for commerce to flow out of and into this area. Hunting Creek did not have the depth of a Deep Creek, but it did permit shallow draft vessels to serve the community, and permitted the shipment of goods, either directly to the western shore ports, or to Onancock or Eastville re-shipping along the coast. "This (Leemont) was Woodstock until Post Office application was made in 1878. Since there was already a Woodstock in Shenandoah County, the proposed named was rejected. Confederate feeling was strong on the Eastern Shore, and a rejection from Washington raise it" (Virginia Placenames, page 22). The first children to have transportation to school at public expense were here at Leemont and Bayside in 1902. They were bussed to the school at Hunting Creek.

Thomas Willett must have been a widower or divorcee when he married Virginia Lewis. Thomas' marriage was recorded in the Peninsula Enterprise Newspaper on September 25, 1897.

"Willett-Lewis, September 8, 1897, at St. Thomas Church, by Rev. J. R. Griffith: Thomas Willett to Miss Virginia Lewis."

She was the daughter of William and Nancy Lewis (AccCoMar, page 16). They lived in Leemont, and according to the 1910 census, Thomas could neither read nor write; he was a laborer who worked for the lumber industry. Thomas and Virginia lived in a rented house. They are buried in the Liberty Cemetery, Parksley, Accomack County, Virginia.

"Thomas R. Willett
Apr 11, 1861
Oct 4, 1937"

"Virginia Etta Willett
June 12, 1864
Mar 20, 1929"

(1900, 1910 Accomack County, Virginia, census).

1. Ethel M: b May, 1894, Virginia. (1900 Accomack County census).

2. Harry Thorogood: b January 28, 1898, at Leemont, Virginia; m Myrtle M. Killmon (b 1904); d January 17, 1976. He is in the 1900 and 1910 census. His will is dated November 4, 1949; in it he left everything to his wife, Myrtle. Harry T. Willett is buried in a family plot at Liberty Cemetery, Parksley; his wife, Myrtle K. has a stone already prepared for her eventual interment beside her husband. There is a second stone which reads:

"Harry T. Willett
F2 U. S. Navy
World War I
January 28, 1898
January 17, 1976"

1. Virginia Katherine: m 1949 Ralph Edward Justis; resides in Leemont. Address: Route 1, Box 205F, Parksley, Virginia, 23401.

1. Darwin Justis:

2. Judson Justis:

3. Debra Yvonne Justis: m Justice Hall.

3. William Thomas: b 1903 at Leemont, Virginia. William Thomas died intestate on March 7, 1976; he left to his only son. (1910 census).

1. Nathaniel (Nat) Zane: b 1935; m Meta; resides at Leemont, Virginia. He owns the "Willett General Store" which serves Leemont. He is the last of the Willett's to live, either on or near, the original Willett land grants and purchases of the seventeenth century. Address: Route 1, Box 203, Parksley, Virginia, 23401.

P.1.5.2.1.3.3.6

WILLIAM J. WILLETT and LIBBIE MARVEL of Leemont, Accomack County, Virginia

William J. Willett was born on July 6, 1875, in Leemont, Virginia. He was only 20 when he married on March 13, 1895, Libbie Marvel, age 37 (b November 25, 1859; d February 19, 1935) (AccCoMar, page 129).

In the 1910 census he was listed as a merchant who owned his own home and lived on the Leemont Road one house away from his brother Alva E. Willett. No issue (1910); d January 23, 1941.

"List of heirs of William J. Willett, deceased, who died intestate, on the 23rd day of January, 1941.

NAME	AGE	RELATION	ADDRESS
Alva E. Willett	61	brother	Leemont, Va.
John T. Willett	70	brother	Crisfield, Md.
Catherine W. Nagle	74	sister	Baltimore, Md.
Clarence Willett	35	nephew	Leemont, Va.
William Willett	35	nephew	Leemont, Va.
Henry Willett	37	nephew	Leemont, Va.
John Willett	45	nephew	Newport News, Va.
Charles Swenson	30	gr. nephew	Baltimore, Md.
Thelma Swenson	27	gr. niece	Baltimore, Md.
Jerome Swenson	25	gr. nephew	Baltimore, Md.
Eva Boyce	57	niece	Cape Charles, Va.

I, Alva E. Willett, having qualified as administrator of the said William J. Willett, deceased, and having made diligent inquiry as to the above names, ages and addresses, do hereby certifiy that to the best of my knowledge and belief the foregoing is a true and correct list of the heirs of the said decedent. Given under my hand this 27th day of January, 1941.

Alva E. Willett, Administrator

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 27th day of Jan., 1941.

John D. Grant, Jr., Clerk.

Virginia: Accomack Circuit Court Clerk's Office, January 27, 1941.

The foregoing list of Heirs of William J. Willett, deceased, was this day filed in said Clerk's Office by Alva E. Willett, Administrator and recorded and indexed according to law.

Teste: John D. Grant, Jr., Clerk

Vertified: Feb. 18, 1941.

(1900, 1910 Accomack County, census).

P.1.5.2.1.3.3.7
OBADIAH WISE WILLETT and SARAH H. of Leemont, Accomack County, Virginia

Obadiah Wise Willett was born on May 25, 1877, at Leemont, Virginia. He married Sarah H. (b September 11, 1885; d September 5, 1941).

In 1910 he was an oysterman who owned his own house in Leemont, and lived on the Leemont Road, across the street from his brother, Alva. He died November 16, 1939. There are 3 graves in his family plot in the Liberty Cemetery, Parksley, Virginia.

(1)
"Willett
Obadiah W.
May 25, 1877
November 16, 1939"

(2)
"Clarence W.
1901-1958"

(3)
"Mabel S.
1898-1958"

(1900, 1910 Accomack County, census).

1. Clarence W: b 1902 at Leemont, Virginia; m Mabel S. (b 1898, d 1958); d August 13, 1946. (1910 Accomack County census). They are buried in a family plot in Liberty Cemetery, Parksley, Virginia.

"List of Heirs of Clarence Wise Willett, deceased, who died intestate, on the 13th day of August, A.D., 1946.

Mabel S. Willett	48	widow	Leemont, Virginia
Norma L. Willett	23	daughter	Wilmington, Delaware

I, Mabel S. Willett, having qualified as Administratrix of the said Clarence Wise Willett, deceased, and having made diligent inquiry as to the above names, ages, and addresses, do hereby certify that to the best of my knowledge and belief the foregoing is a true and correct list of the heirs of the said decedent.

Given under my hand this 19th day of August, A.D., 1946.

Mabel S. Willett"

P.1.5.2.1.3.3.8

JOHN T. WILLETT and MARY E. LLOYD of Leemont, Accomack County, Virginia

John T. Willett was born in May, 1881, at Leemont (born August, 1878, according to the 1900 census). On August 1, 1894, he married Mary E. Lloyd (b December, 1862, Virginia), age 33, the daughter of Julius and Ann Twyford (AccCoMar, page 126).

They lived in Hopkins, Virginia, just down the road from his brothers in Leemont. John and Mary Willett eventually moved to Crisfield, Maryland, where he died in 1941.

(1900 Accomack County, Virginia, census).

"I, John T. Willett, of Somerset County, in the State of Maryland, being in sound and disposing mind, memory and understanding, and contemplating the certainty of death, but the uncertainty of the time thereof, do make this my last will and testament, in manner following, that is to say:

After the payment of all my just debts and funeral expenses, I give, devise and bequeath my estate, as follows:

Item 1: I give, devise and bequeath all my property and estate, of every kind and description, real, personal and mixed, and wheresoever situated, unto Maud Sterling, wife of William T. Sterling, of Crisfield, Somerset County, Maryland, her heirs, personal representatives and assigns, and I make this disposition of all my property unto the said Maud Susan Sterling, to the exclusion of all others, including those related to me, because of her kindness and consideration of me, and in appreciation of what the said Maud Susan Sterling has done for my comfort and contentment.

Item 2: I hereby constitute and appoint the said Maud Susan Sterling to be the Executrix of this my last will and testament, hereby revoking all other wills and codicils by me heretofore made, and as I have entire confidence in my said Executrix, I desire that she shall be excused from the necessity of giving bond for the performance of her duties as such Executrix.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto subscribed my name and affixed my seal this 3rd day of March, in the year nineteen hundred and forty-one.

John T. Willett
(seal)"

P.1.5.2.1.3.3.9
ALVA E. WILLETT and IDA M. TAYLOR of Leemont, Accomack County, Virginia

Alva E. Willett was born May 18, 1880. His marriage notice is in the Peninsula Enterprise Newspaper on January 24, 1903.

"Willett-Taylor-January 18, 1903, at Leemont, by Rev. R. K. Lewis, Alva E. Willett and Miss Ida M. Taylor."

Alva was an oysterman. He died intestate March 13, 1951, leaving his entire estate to his only child, Stella May Spurley. He is buried in a family plot in Liberty Cemetery, Parksley, Virginia. There are four gravestones in his plot.

(1)
"Alva E. Willett
18 May 1880
March 13, 1951"

at his foot
"Father"

(2)
"William J. Willett
July 6, 1874
January 23, 1941"

(3)
"Libby B. Willett
November 25, 1857
Feburary 19, 1935"

(4)
"W" and "W"

(1900 Accomack County, Virginia, census).

1. Stella May: b 1904; m at Snow Hill, Maryland, on March 6, 1920, Spurley (b March 1, 1897); resides in Leemont. (1910 census). (1900 Accomack County census).

P.5.2.1.3.4
JOHN W. WILLETT and MARY E. HICKMAN
of Pastoria, Accomack County, Virginia

John W. Willett was born in May, 1835, in Accomack County, Virginia. His father, William, died in 1837 leaving him and his 4 brothers and sisters orphaned. His mother, Polly, moved in with their grandfather, John Willett, and lived with him until his death in 1844. John inherited ½ of his grandfather's estate and land.

On May 27, 1839, Monday, at the Accomack Court Quarter Session:

> "John Willett, Jr. is by the Court appointed Guardian to Ann, Sally, Thomas, John, and William Willett, orphans of William Willett, decd, and he thereupon together with John C. Hall and John R. Drummond his securities thereunto entered into and acknowledged a Bond in the penalty of Five Hundred dollars conditioned according to Law" (AccCo-Orders, page 520).

John Willett, Jr. was their uncle. On March 30, 1840, Monday, Court Quarter Session:

> "Orphan Accounts against Ann Willett, Sally Willett, Thomas Willett, John Willett, and William Willett were returned and ordered to be recorded" (AccCoOrders 1840-1842, page 6).

On July 28, 1845, Monday, because of the death of his uncle, John Willett, a new guardian was appointed for John Willett and his two brothers.

> "George P. Ewell is by the Court appointed guardian of Thomas, John, and William Willett, orphans of William Willett, dec'd, and thereupon together with John R. Drummond and John E. Gray Securities thereto, entered into and acknowledged a Bond in the penalty of Five thousand dollars($5,000) conditioned according to Law" (AccCoOrders 1842-1845, page 671).

On May 31, 1852, Monday, Court Quarter Session the orphan accounts for himself, and his two brothers were submitted.

> "An Account of John Willett, with George P. Ewell, his guardian, having been filed by commissioner Samuel Melvin in the Clerk's Office, more than one month, was examined by the Court, Confirmed and ordered to be recorded" (AccCoOrders 1851-1854, page 211).

On June 27, 1853, Monday the orphan accounts for himself and his two brothers wer submitted.

"An Account of John Willett, with George P. Ewell, his guardian, having been filed by commissioner Samuel Melvin in the Clerk's Office, more than one month, was examined by the Court, Confirmed and ordered to be recorded" (AccCoOrders 1851-1854, page 419).

In 1855, John W. Willett turned 20. Guardianship for a male minor ended at 21. John was on his own, but he came into possession of the inheritance his grandfather had left him which consisted of ½ of the lands which had been bought from Edmund B. Ayres in the early 1800s.

On November 16, 1855, he married Mary E. (Polly) Hickman (b March, 1838) the daughter of Nancy Hickman (b 1800?) (AccCoMar, page 2). Technically, still an orphaned minor before the court, an orphan, under 21, could acted legally in all aspects of the law, except for the sale of real estate.

On March 31, 1856, Monday, Court Quarter Session:

"1st March, 1856: Deed of Trust: John W. Willett to John W. Gillett, trustee for Isaiah N. Bagwell: Land" (page 370).

This probably consisted of the land he had inherited. On September 29, 1856, Monday:

"August 29, 1856: Deed of Trust: John W. Willett to John W. Gillett, trustee for I. N.Bagwell: Land" (page 502).

On May 28, 1866, Monday, Court Quarter Session:

"30th April, 1866, mortgage John Willett to William W. Lewis, John E. Churn, and Edward Thornton, admitted to record 22 May, 1866, on his Personal Estate" (AccCoOrders 1866, page 189).

On June 1, 1866, Friday, Court Quarter Session by Adjournment:

"Thomas R. Willett, Plt, against John W. Willett, Deft: In Trespass, Assault, and Battery: The defendant by John Neely, his attorney, says that he is not guilty of the trespass in the declaration mentioned, or any of them, in manner and form as the plaintiff against him has complained, and of this he puts himself upon the Country, and the plaintiff likewise. Whereon, on the motion of the defendant, it is ordered that the judgment entered against him in the office be set aside" (AccCo-Orders 1866, page 210).

On April 2, 1867, Tuesday, Court Quarter Session by Adjournment:

> "It is ordered to be certifed that John W. Willett is entitled to Six Dollars ($6.00) for seven days service as a Juror during the present term; of which sum One Dollar is payable by the Commonwealth, and the residue thereof by this Court" (AccCoOrders 1866, page 497).

The Civil War was a great impoverisher for the Willett family of Accomack. On September 10, 1869, Friday, at the Accomack Court Quarter Session by Adjournment John Willett was having the same financial problems that his brother, Thomas R., was having.

> "John R. Drummond and Oliver P. Drummond, merchants and partners, trading under the firm and Style of Drummond Bro; Pltffs, against John W. Willett, Deft: In Debt: Same Judgment in favor of the plaintiffs against the defendants for One hundred and four Dollars and eighty five cents ($104.85) with interest thereon from the thirty first day of December A.D. One thousand, eight hundred and fifty nine, till payment, and their costs by them about their suit in this behalf expended, and the said defendants in mercy etc" (page 268).

John and Polly lived near Pastoria. In 1910, he was a 75 year old farmer living on the Guilford Road in Parksley.
(1880, 1900, 1910 Accomack County, Virginia, census).

1. Tulley E: b September 17, 1856; m 1st August 20, 1882, Harriet J. Bayly, at Onancock; m 2d August 20, 1896, Medlie H. Northam. (1880 Accomack County census). See next P.1.5.2.1.3.4.1.

2. (child): b December 9, 1857; d December 15, 1857, age 6 days.

3. John W: b September 18, 1858; m March 20, 1884, Maggie E. Mister. (1880 Accomack County census).

4. Margaret J: b May 7, 1863; d July 25, 1864.

5. Lethia (Lishey; Allethia): b May 7, 1864. (1880 Accomack County census).

6. Margaret (or Rosey, Maggie or Margaret Rose): b September, 1865. (1880 Accomack County census).

7. Patrick Warren: b April, 1871; m July 7, 1900, Virgie E. Kilman. (1880, 1900 Accomack County census). See next P.1.5.2.1.3.4.7.

8. Ruth L: b 1875 or 1876. (1880 Accomack County census).

9. John: b January 22, 1874. (Not mentioned in the 1880 Accomack County census).

P.1.5.2.1.3.4.1
TULLEY E. WILLETT of Leemont, Accomack County, Virginia

Tulley E. Willett was born September 17, 1856. He married 1st at Onancock on August 24, 1882, Harriet J. Bayly, age 19, daughter of Johannes and Francis A. Bayly (AccCoMar, page 46; and Peninsula Enterprise Newspaper, August 24, 1882). She died in childbirth at Leemont, on Friday August 30th, 1895, aged 30 years.

Tulley married 2d on August 20, 1896, Medlie H. Northam, widow. The new Mrs. Willett bought with her a daughter, Dixie Northam (b 1893), the daughter of Noah Evans and Heulah.

Tulley was a painter who owned his own home on the Leemont Road. The last four children listed below are by his 2d wife, Medlie.

They moved to Hampton, Virginia, about (or before) 1920.

(1900, 1910 Accomack County census).

1. Lula: b 1883, Virginia; d "At Leemont, Friday, August 7th, Lula, daughter of Tully R. Willett, aged 2 years" (Peninsula Enterprise Newspaper, August 15, 1885).

2. Alice: b May, 1888, Virginia. (1900 Accomack County census).

3. Carson M: b January 22, 1889, at Parksley, Accomack County, Virginia. In the 1910 census, he is living with his grandmother, Francis Bayley of Leemont, just 3 doors away from his father; living in Hampton, Virginia jn 1917, 1919 and 1920; m 1st July 5, 1917, Nannie Howard Holloway; m 2d October 24, 1927, Alice Margaret Brown. (1900, 1910 census). See next P.1.5.2.1.3.4.1.

4. Lula F: b February 20, 1891, Accomack County, Virginia. Lula F. Willett was living in the household of Th. Evans in 1910 as a "hired girl" (1900, 1910 Accomack County census).

5. Patty (Hattie; Harriet): b August, 1895, Virginia. In 1910, she was living with her grandfather, John W. Willett, in Parksley. (1900 Accomack County census).

6. Bertha E: b July, 1899, Virginia. (1900, 1910 Accomack County census).

7. Flora B: b 1902. (1910 census).

P.1.5.2.1.3.4.1
CARSON MELLETUS WILLETT of Phoebus, Elizabeth City County, Virginia

Carson Melletus Willett was born on January, 1889, at Parksley, Accomack County, Virginia. In the 1910 census, he is living with his grandmother, Francis Bayley of Leemont, just 3 doors away from his father. He married in Elizabeth City County, Virginia, at Hampton, on July 5, 1917, Nannie (Mamie) Howard Holloway (divorcee) (b 1891), the daughter of David and Lizzie Howard (Elizabeth City County, Marriage Book 2, page 55). They were divorced.

He is the Carson M. Willett living at 501 Victoria Blvd in Hampton, Virginia in 1917, 1919 and 1920. (1910 census). Carson married 2d in Elizabeth City County on October 24, 1927, Alice Margaret Brown (b Chesterfield, Virginia), the daughter of Herman and Pearl Brown (Elizabeth City Marriage Book 2, page 55).

1. Elizabeth Frances: b 1918 at Phoebus, Virginia; m in Hampton on August 29, 1936, Samuel Edward Sprinkle (b 1915 at Harrisonburg, Virginia), the son of Pierce and Sallie (Webster) Sprinkle.

2. Ella Margaret: b at Phoebus in 1929; m February 24, 1948, Merle Wiest Goodhart (b 1925 in Dickerson, Pennsylvania), the son of Lester M. Gooshart and Leora Wiest. (Elizabeth City County, Marriage Book 4, page 12).

3. Jesse Carson: b January 14, 1922, in Phoebus; m at South Mills, Camden County, North Carolina, on June 22, 1941, Dorothy L. Brady (b 1922); resided at 63 Bainbridge Avenue, Hampton; inducted in the Army on February 15, 1945, at Fort Meade, Maryland.

1. John Howard: b 1942 in Hampton, Virginia; m December 7, 1961, Hattie Jolene Bost (b 1945 at Marion, North Carolina), the daughter of Frank and Martha A. Hall Bost.

2. Ellen Francis: b April 12, 1956; m September 7, 1977, John Thomas Wilkerson (b August 15, 1957).

P.1.5.2.1.3.4.7
PATRICK WARREN WILLETT and VIRGIE E. KILMAN
of Parksley, Accomack County, Virginia

Patrick Warren Willett was born April, 1871, Virginia. He married on July 7, 1900, Virginia (Virgie) E. Kilman, age 22 (AccCoMar, page 52). In 1900, he was a painter. They lived on the Guilford Road, Parksley, Virginia, in 1910.
(1900, 1910 Accomack County, Virginia, census).

1. (infant death): b 1900. (1910 Accomack County census).

2. Clarence E: b 1904. (1910 Accomack County census).

3. Robert C: b 1909. (1910 Accomack County census).

P.1.5.2.1.3.5

WILLIAM M. WILLETT and ANNIE GLADDING of Wiseville, Accomack County, Virginia

William M. Willett was born in 1836. His father, William, died one year later leaving him and his brothers and sisters orphaned. First, his uncle John Willett, Jr., was their guardian as the following record shows. On May 27, 1839, Monday, at an Accomack Court Quarter Session:

> "John Willett Jr is by the Court appointed Guardian to Ann, Sally, Thomas, John, and William Willett, orphans of William Willett, decd, and he thereupon together with John C. Hall and John R. Drummond his securities thereunto entered into and acknowleoged a Bond in the penalty of Five Hundred dollars conditioned according to Law" (AccCoOrders 1836-1842, page 520).

On March 30, 1840, Monday, Court Quarter Session:

> "Orphan Accounts against Ann Willett, Sally Willett, Thomas Willett, John Willett, and William Willett were returned and ordered to be recorded" (AccCoOrders 1840-1842, page 6).

William M. Willett's guardian, uncle John Willett, died in 1844, and the court appointed another guardian, this time George P. Ewell. On July 28, 1845, Monday:

> "George P. Ewell is by the Court appointed guardian of Thomas, John, and William Willett, orphans of William Willett, dec'd, and thereupon together with John R. Drummond and John E. Gray Securities thereto, entered into and acknowleoged a Bond in the penalty of Five thousand dollars($5,000) conditioned according to Law" (AccCoOrders 1842-1845, page 671).

In the 1850 census, a George Corde, Jr., 1 year old, is living in the Polly Willett household, along with William M. Willett, age 12.

On May 31, 1852, Monday, at the Court Quarter Session:

> "An Account of John Willett, with George P. Ewell, his guardian, having been filed by commissioner Samuel Melvin in the Clerk's Office, more than one month, was examined by the Court, Confirmed and ordered to be recorded" (AccCoOrders 1851-1854, page 211).

On May 31, 1852, Monday, Court Quarter Session:

"An Account of William Willett, with George P. Ewell, his guardian, having been filed by commissioner Samuel Melvin in the Clerk's Office, more than one month, was examined by the Court, Confirmed and ordered to be recorded" (AccCoOrders 1851-1854, page 211).

On December 27, 1852, Monday:

"A Receipt from George P. Ewell, guardian of William Willett, to John R. Drummond, Executor of John Willett Jr, decd, was proved by the oath of Louis D. Drummond a witness thereto and ordered to be recorded" (AccCoOrders 1851-1854, page 333).

On June 27, 1853, Monday:

"An Account of William Willett, with George P. Ewell, his guardian, having been filed by commissioner Samuel Melvin in the Clerk's Office, more than one month, was examined by the Court, Confirmed and ordered to be recorded" (AccCoOrders 1851-1854, page 419).

On May 29, 1854, Monday, Court Quarter Session:

"An Account of William Willett, with George P. Ewell, his guardian, having been filed by commissioner James S. Corbin in the Clerk's Office, more than one month, was examined by the Court, Confirmed and ordered to be recorded" (AccCoOrders 1854-1857, , page 44).

On July 30, 1855, Monday, Court Quarter Session:

"An Account of William Willett, with George P. Ewell, his guardian, having been filed by commissioner James S. Corbin in the Clerk's Office, more than one month, was examined by the Court, Confirmed and ordered to be recorded" (AccCoOrders 1854-1857, page 247).

On September 29, 1856, Monday, Court Quarter Session:

"An Account of William Willett, with George P. Ewell, his guardian, having been filed by commissioner James S. Corbin in the Clerk's Office, more than one month, was examined by the Court, Confirmed and ordered to be recorded" (AccCoOrders 1854-1857, page 503).

In the 1860 census, an Anna is living in the William M. Willett household, as is George S., now 12, and Frank, age 4. It is possible that these were children of his sister, Ann (b 1827). No marriage record has been found to date (1983), nor any birth records. At any rate, George S. Willett is living in the William M. Willett household in 1860, and can not be his natural son.

He is probably the William Willett, age 43, who (in 1880) was the head of a household which consisted of Hester Allen (not married), age 38, Mary Allen, age 15, Edward Allen, age 11, and James Allen, age 3.

It is a shame that the whole of the Civil War period must be passed over without comment. There was an impact on William and his brothers. They were all impoverished by the war. In William's case, he did not recover from his financial losses until long after the war was over. As late as 1880, when he was jailed for trepass, he was unable to pay the fine. On September 27, 1880, Monday:

> "An Indictment against William M. Willett for unlawful and willful Trepass; A True Bill" (AccCoOrders 1877-1881, page 589).

His case went to trial on March 28, 1881, Monday:

> "On the petition of William M. Willett (the Attorney for the Commonwealth waiving the notice required by Law) who is confined in the Jail of this Court by virtue of a Capias pro fine issued from the Clerk's Office of this Court on the 4th day of January, A.D., 1881, it is ordered that he be set at liberty upon giving security to keep the peace and be of good behavior towards all the citizens of this Commonwealth for the period of twelve months from this day in the penalty of One hundred ($100.00) with security in the like sum. It appearing to the Court from evidence abduced that said Willett is wholly unable to pay the fine and costs recovered against him for which said Writ issued. And thereupon the said William M. Willett entered into recognizance in the penalty aforesaid with James T. Hurst, surety, in the like sum conditional to keep the peace and be of good behavior as aforesaid" (AccCoOrders 1877-1881, page 679).

William M. Willett's marriage is recorded in the Peninsula Enterprise Newspaper on November 29, 1884.

> "Willet-Gladding-Near Wiseville, November 23d, 1884, by Rev. A. J. Walter, William M. Willett to Miss Annie Gladding, both of this county."

William was 48 at this time, and Anne Gladding was 24 (AccCoMar, page 82). William M. Willett listed his occupation as carpenter in 1900, and as farmer in 1910. He lived on the Bayside Road, and rented a general farm. This may have been on the old Willett patent land where Wiseville and Drummond's Mill Farm are located but more likely it was a little south and west of the mill. (1880, 1900 Accomack County census).

1. George S: b December, 1849, Virginia; m January 26, 1875, Polly F. Small. See next P.1.5.2.1.3.5.1.

2. Orris Frank: b 1856 or 1857; m 2d September 30, 1885, Maggie Lee Simpson. See next P.1.5.2.1.3.5.2.

3. Charles W: b April 17, 1888, Accomack County (his mother's name was listed as Susan); m September 1, 1912, Minnie W. Clayton, age 28, of Accomack (AccCoMar, page 192); d 1912; his list of heirs is dated November 11, 1912, and mentions his wife, Minnie Clayton Willett, of Leemont, and William M. Willett (father), age 76 (AccCoDeed Book, No. 100, 1912-1913, Accomack County Circuit Court). (1900, 1910 Accomack County census).

4. Nola (Norah) Leigh: b March 29, 1892, Accomack County census; m December 14, 1913, Alger Joseph Taylor, age 22, of Accomack, the son of John Savage and Magaret F. Taylor (AccCoMar, page 208). (1900, 1910 Accomack County census).

P.1.5.2.1.3.5.1

GEORGE S. WILLETT and POLLY F. SMALL of Pastoria, Accomack County, Virginia

George S. Willett was born in December, 1849, in Virginia. He is possibly a stepchild from an earlier marriage; possibly the child of one of William M. Willett's sisters; or he may be the George Corde, age 1, who was in the Polly Willett household in 1850. His parentage is really a mystery at this time, except that he is associated with William M. Willett's household.

He was raised near the old Willett Mill site, just to the west of Wiseville along Hunting Creek. There was a new public school at Hunting Creek and possibly he attended it.

He married in Accomack County, Virginia, on January 26, 1875, Polly F. Small (b 1860).

In 1910, they were living in Pastoria, just north of Accomac Courthouse on the Seaside Road. (1880, 1900, 1910 Accomack County census).

1. Annie May: b 1882, Virginia; there is no record of a marriage before 1906, yet she has a daughter, Blanche Willett, who was born in 1901; m June 23, 1906, James Bishop the son of George and Annie Bishop. (1900, 1910 Accomack County census).

1. Blanche Willett: b 1901; married at age 14 on March 28, 1915, Clarence Hayden, age 17, son of Harry and Ida Hayden (AccCoMar, page 226).

2. Lillian: b October, 1884, Virginia; m 2d March 11, 1913, William L. Wright, age 38, son of James and Margaret Wright, of Accomack. (1900 Accomack County census).

3. Bettie Lee: b December, 1887; (1900, 1910 Accomack County census).

4. (infant): stillborn October 30, 1892.

5. Mary Cecile: b October, 1893; m September 27, 1911, Robt James Lewis, son of Robert James and Amelia Lewis (AccCoMar, page 182). (1910 Accomack County census).

P.1.5.2.1.3.5.2
ORRIS FRANK WILLETT of Metompkin, Accomack County, Virginia

Orris Frank Willett was born in 1866 and raised near the old Willett Mill site at Wiseville. He married 1st Sally Phillips (b 1863), the daughter of Thomas and Sarah Phillips. She died in childbirth on November 18, 1882, at the age of 19. Her obituary is in the Peninsula Enterprise Newspaper on November 2, 1882 (sic).

> "Willet-At Woodbury, last Monday, Mrs. Sally Willett, wife of Frank Willett, aged 19 years."

His second marriage is noted in the same newspaper on October 10, 1885.

> "Willet-Simpson-At Modestown, September 30th, 1885, by Rev. A. Woodyard, Orris F. Willett to Miss Maggie Simpson, both of Accomac."

Orris Frank Willett was 30 and his new wife was 17, and the daughter of Southy and Mary Simpson (AccCoMar, page 85).

In 1910, they lived near Metompkin, close to the Alms house, on the Seaside Road. Orris worked on a general farm, while Maggie L. and his two oldest sons, Oscar L. and Harold, maintained the home farm. All his children, except the two youngest, had attended school during the year. (1900 Accomack County census).

1. Sally F: b November 12, 1882, Accomack County.

2. (son): b September 2, 1886, Accomack County.

3. Oscar L: b September 10, 1889, Accomack County; m 1st Mary Virginia Kellam; m 2d Nina Ayres. (1900, 1910 Accomack County census). See next P.1.5.2.1.3.5.2.3.

4. Harold F: b February, 1892. (1900, 1910 Accomack County census).

5. Shelly: b March, 1894. Possibly the Shelley Washington Willett who died intestate October 8, 1957, leaving a wife, Sarah A., age 66 living at Anderton Avenue, Chincoteague, Virginia, and a son Calvin, aged 30 living in Lynchburg, Virginia. (1900, 1910 census).

6. William (Willie) Samuel: b May 23, 1896. (1900, 1910 Accomack County census).

7. Jewell Mary: b 1898; m December 14, 1914, William T. Lewis, age 22, son of Robert J. and Ethel Lewis, of Accomack (AccCoMar, page 212). (1910 Accomack County census).

8. Frank: b 1902. (1910 Accomack County census).

9. Kate: b 1908. (1910 Accomack County census).

P.1.5.2.1.3.5.2.3
OSCAR L. WILLETT of Exmore, Northampton County, Virginia

Oscar L. Willett was born on September 10, 1889. He lived in Northampton County, Virginia. Oscar L. Willett married 1st Mary Virginia Kellam. He married 2d Nina Ayres.
His will is dated January 19,1949; probate June 16, 1949.
(1910 Northampton County census).

"I, Oscar L. Willett, of Northampton County, Virginia, do make this my last will and testament as follows:

First: I direct that all my just debts be paid as soon after my decease as conveniently may be, and to that end, charge my whole estate, real and personal, with the same.

Second: I give and devise to my wife, Nina A. Willett, for and during the term of her natural life only, any and all real estate, together with the buildings and improvements thereon, which I may own at the time of my death.

Third: At the death of my said wife, I give and devise to my son Lee Kellam Willett, in fee simple, subject only to the life estate of my said wife, Nina A. Willett, the lot, piece or parcel of real estate, with all buildings and improvements thereon, now owned by me, adjoining the LaFonda real estate, which my wife owns, in the town of Exmore, Northampton County, Virginia.

Fourth: I give and devise to my said son, Lee Kellam Willett, and to Evelyn Everhart, daughter of my said wife, equally and jointly, share and share alike, any and all other real estate, which I may own at the time of my death, in fee simple, subject only to the life estate of my said wife, Nina A. Willett.

Fifth: I give and bequeath to my said wife, Nina A. Willett, in fee simple, any and all personal estate, of every kind, nature and description, which I may own at the time of my death, including intangibles.

Sixth: I appoint my said wife, Nina A. Willett, Executrix of this my will, and desire that no security be required of her upon her official bond as Executrix.

Seventh: I hereby revoke all previous wills and codicils which I may have made at any previous time.

Witness my hand and seal this the 19th day of January, 1949.

Oscar L. Willett
(seal)

Signed, published and declared by Oscar L. Willett, as and for his last will, in the presence of us, who in his presence, at his request, and in the presence of one another, have hereunto subscribed our names as witnesses this the 19th day of January, 1949.

Jewell S. Evans
William King Mapp"

1. Lee Kellam: b March 15, 1931; m June 20, 1954, Irene Wilson; resides at Painter, Accomack County, Virginia.

    1. Mary Susan: b December 23, 1957; m Harry Beasley.

    2. Thomas Lee: b September 20, 1962; m Angela Lewis.

2. Evelyn Everhart: (stepdaughter).

P.1.5.2.2
WILLIAM WILLETT of Accomack County, Virginia

William Willett was born about 1777. His birth is variously dated as occurring between 1770-1780, 1775-1785, and 1765-1785. He married about 1795. His wife's name is unknown at present (1985). They made their home in Accomack County, Virginia.

1. (son): b abt 1798 (between 1795-1800).

2. (daughter): b abt 1799 (between 1795-1800).

3. John: b about 1802; m about 1825 Claudia; d after 1843. See next P.1.5.2.2.3.

P.1.5.2.2.3
JOHN WILLETT and CLAUDIA of Pastoria, Accomack County, Virginia

John Willett was born 1802 (between 1800 and 1810). He married about 1825 Claudia and eventually moved to near Pastoria, Accomack County, Virginia.

More research needs to go into this John Willett and his ancestry is by no means to be considered proven at this time (1985).

On January 28, 1833:

> "John Willett, Jr., and Claudia his wife to William Rolly transferred Land. Acknowledged by John Willett, Jr., and certified by two Justices of the Peace as to the said Claudia Willett wife of the said John Willett, Jr" (AccCoOrders 1832-1836, page 58).

On June 24, 1833:

> "John Willett (of William) to William Rolly transfered Personal Estate: Proved ... June 24th, 1833" (AccCoOrders 1832-1836, page 154).

On November 24, 1834:

> "John Willett (of Wm) to Henry Fletcher, Shff, transferred Land: Acknowledged" (AccCoOrders 1832-1834, page 375).

Perhaps, John Willett, had fallen on hard times and become impoverished, or at a minimum, indebted. The next entry reflects this premise; on June 27, 1836, Monday:

> "John Willett, Jr., being in the Custody of the Sheriff on a writ of hapeas adsatisfaci end unv at the Suit of Thomas Lewis (of S.) came into Court deliverer in a Schedule of his Estate took the oath of an

Insolvent debtor and was thereupon discharged. The said Thomas Lewis admitting that he had received due notice of this motion" (AccCoOrders 1836-1842, page 35).

There were four John Willetts contemporary to each other, and it is important to keep them separate. One is this John Willett, age about 45, son of William (P.1.5.2.1.4); another John W. Willett, son of Charles C. Willett, died on August 18, 1843, at the age of 22 and is buried in the Charles C. Willett family graveyard overlooking Hunting Creek; John Willett, (Sr.), son of William, who died in 1843, in his seventies or eighties; and John Willett, the orphaned son of William (d 1837).

The following three entries concern a law suit over some land. On August 29, 1843, Tuesday Court Quarter Session by Adjournment:

"John Willett (use of John W. Rowley), Plt, against John W. Hack Jr, Deft: In Debt" (AccCoOrders 1842-1845, page 263).

On September 1, 1843, Friday, Court Quarter session by Adjournment:

"John Willett (who sues for the use and benefit of John W. Rowley), Plt, against John W. Hack, and William L. Major, Defendants: In Debt: This day came the parties by their attorneys and the defendants, withdrawing their former pleas, their attorney Says he is not informed of anything further to Say in Law or preclusion of the plaintiffs actions, whereby it is considered by the Court that the plaintiff recover against the defendants the sum of Forty One dollars and eighteen cents, with interest thereon from the 25th July, 1841, until paid and costs by him about his suit in this behalf expended. And the defendants in Mercy etc" (AccCoOrders 1842-1845, page 292).

On December 25, 1843, Monday:

"John Willett who sues for the use of John W. Rowley, Plaintiff, against John W. Hack, and William L. Major, and Crod J. Hack, defants: On a motion and a forfeited forthcoming bond: This Bond having been returned by the Sheriff and being inspected by the Court and found to be correct and it being proved by the oaths of Revell West, Deputy Sheriff, that the defendants have had legal notice of this motion, and they being solmenly called, came not but made default. On motion of the plaintiff by Edward P. Pitts his attorney it is considered by the Court that the plaintiff may have execution against the defendants for one hundred and two dollars and thirty six cents, the penalty of said Bond, to be discharged by the payment of Fifty one dollars and eighteen cents, with interest from 21 October, 1843, till paid and his costs by him about his suit in his behalf expended. And etc" (AccCoOrders 1842-1845, page 369).

P.1.5.2.3
WAITMAN WILLETT of Wiseville, Accomack County, Virginia

Waitman Willett was born about 1779 (1775-1794) and (if the assumption is true that he is the son of William Willett and brother to Charles C. Willett) he was raised on his father's, William, farm overlooking Hunting Creek. However, in one Accomack Court Order (mentioned below) he is described as being the son of Thomas. There is a Thomas Willett whose parentage is unknown that married Tabitha Phillip on July 17, 1786, in Accomack County (AccCoBonds). This Waitman could well be a son of this Thomas based on his probable birth after 1785. However, for convenience sake and until further evidence is brought forward, Waitman Willett will be considered to be the child of William Willett of Hunting Creek.

There was another Waitman Willett who may have been his uncle, or even a brother, who died in the Battle of Germantown during the Revolutionary War. Since the name is unusual, perhaps, he was named after this Waitman who died at Germantown.

This next entry may makes it likely that Waitman is not the child of William Willett; since William was living at this time, and ergo Waitman would not have come under the perview of the overseers of the poor. On December 31, 1804, the Accomack Court:

> "Ordered that Henry Harman (of ...) and Waitman Willett (of Thomas) be both bound by the overseers of the poor to Walter Welch till of lawful age to learn the trade of a hatter" (AccCoOrders 1804-1805, page 189).

According to the most likely dates of birth for his children, Waitman Willett must have been married about 1790. This is another consideration which needs to be looked at, because the assumption is that this Waitman was born after 1785 is in direct conflict with a marriage at this date. Perhaps this was a second marriage when Waitman married on March 5, 1806, Sarah (Sally) White, with Daniel Melson, acting as Surety. Also, on March 5, 1806, land was transfered from Daniel Melson, Sr., trustee to Waitman Willett and Sarah White "in consideration of marriage" (AccCoLand 1804-1807, page 552).

On April 3, 1807, at the Accomack Court:

> "Waitman Willett and wife, Complt against Betsey Bull and others, Deft: In Chancery: Agreed Dismissed" (AccCoOrders 1806-1807, page 293).

He is in the 1810 census; his son Waitman is in the 1820 and 1830 cenuses).

Waitman Willett must have died in 1813, because on February 23, 1813, at the Accomack Court it was:

> "Ordered that Levi Dix, George Wright, Thomas Hickman, Blacksmiths, and Charles Rue, or any three of them, being first duly sworn do appraise the personal estate of the said Waitman Willett, dec'd, and make return thereto to the Court" (AccCoOrders 1812-1814, page 207).

It is interesting to note that Levi Dix, George Wright, and Thomas Hickman were all blacksmiths. Perhaps, they worked at the old Willett blacksmith shop.

On February 23, 1813, the Accomack County court:

> "Ordered that Levi Dix, George Wright, and Charles Rue, or any two of them, do audit and settle the Estate of said Waitman Willett, dec'd, and make return thereof to the Court" (AccCoOrders 1812-1814, page 207).

A guardian would have been appointed for his children who were under age at this time. No Court record has been found for 1813 or 1814 but later on December 25, 1820, at the Accomack Court it was ordered that:

> "Tressy Willett, orphan of Waitman Willett, came into Court and made choice of John Bagwell for her guardian who thereupon gave bond according to Law in the sum of $500.00 with Thomas W. Blackstone and Charles Mason, Securities thereto" (AccCoOrders 1819-1822, page 256).

Perhaps his other children were of sufficient age at his death not to require a guardian, and most likely by 1820 his 2 eldest children would not have required a guardian. However, the ages in the census record, and the ages which could be predicted from the Court record do not agree. His daughter, Sarah, had a guardian appointed in 1823.

The following receipt pertains to his son, Waitman, and is mentioned here to help differentiate the between father, son, and grandson. On May 30, 1821, at the Accomack Court:

> "A Receipt from Waitman Willett to Richard East was proved by the Oath of William Young a witness thereto and ordered to be Recorded" (AccCoOrders 1819-1822, page 344).

His widow, Sally Willett (also called Sarah in the same will) died in 1822 and left a will which names names John Y. Bagwell as the Executor. Her will is given below.

> "In the name of God, Amen. I, Sally Willett, of the County of Accomack and State of Virginia, being in good health and Sound Judgment do make and adour (sic) this to be may last Will and Testament. In Testimony this being June Twenty Eighth in the year of our lord one thousand and Eight hundred and Twenty two, and as follows, to Wit:
>
> I give unto my dearly beloved daughter, Sally Willett, Tew (sic) akres of land, be it more or less, Situate on the Rode that leads from the sea Side to Bagwell Store, and bounded as follows: on the North by the land of Solomon White; on the East by the land belonging to John S.

Dix; on the South by the land of Thomas Hickman; and on the West by the land belonging to the heirs of Daniel Melson; to her and her heirs forever.

Item: I give unto my daughter, Sally Willett, one Bed and furniture, Stead, matt and Cord, also Six Silver tea Spoons, one linen wheel, first choice, one Blue chest, one Suit of Bed Curtains, to her and her heirs forever.

I also leave the remaining part of my property to be Sold and my just debts paid out of it, and the balance of the money arising from the sale of the said property to go also to my daughter Sally Willett, to her and her heirs forever.

And I also appoint my friend, John Y. Bagwell, Executor, to this my last Will and Testament as Witness My hand and seal this 28th day June A.D. 1822.

Sarh Wilet (sic)
(Seal)

Witness
James H. Dix
John S. Dix
Josiah Speight

At a Court held for Accomack County August 26th, 1822, This last Will and Testament of Sarah Willett decd was Proved by the oaths of John S. Dix and Josiah Speight Witnesses thereto and ordered to be recorded; and on the motion of John Y. Bagwell, the Executor, therein named taking oath and giving bond according to law, in the Sum of $1,000 with Levi Dix and Thomas Lewis (of Spencer), Securities thereto. A Certificate is granted him for obtaining a probate thereof in due form.

Teste: Richd D. Bayly, Clk

(AccCoWills 1821-1823, page 377)

An identical entry is in the Accomack County Order Book 1822-1824, on page 61. Bagwell's Store was probably the old Wise Store just across the lane from the old Willett Farm House and Mill. Today (1983), only the foundations of the old Wise Store remain. There are too many similarities with the family and friends of William Willett, Senior, not to mention and consider this will and the Court Order entries which accompany it.

On August 26, 1822, the Accomack Court

"Ordered that William Riley, James H. Dix, Thomas W. Blackstone, and Revell Dix or any three of them, being first duly sworn, do appraise the personal estate of Sarah Willett and make return thereof to the Court" (AccCoOrders 1822-1824, page 61).

"The last will and Testament of Sarah Willett, dec'd, was proved by the oaths of John T. Dix, and Isaiah Speight witnesses thereto and ordered to be Recorded. And on the motion of John Y. Bagwell, the Executor, therein named taking oath and giving bond according to Law

in the Sum of $1000.00 with Levi Dix, and Thomas Lewis (of Spencer), Securities thereto. A certificate is granted him for obtaining a probate thereof in due form" (AccCoOrders 1822-1824, page 61).

"Ordered that William Riley, James H. Dix, Thomas W. Blackstone, and Revell Dix or any three of them, being first duly sworn, do appraise the personal estate of Sarah Willett and make return thereof to the Court" (AccCoOrders 1822-1824, page 61).

Another Waitman Willett is living at this time. For on April 28, 1823, at the Accomack Court:

"Waitman Willett and Polly, his wife, to L. and T. Joynes: A Deed of Mortgage in Real and Personal Estate to secure the payment of Money: Certified by two Justices of the Peace to have been acknowledged before them by Waitman and Polly as their act and Deed on the 5th April, 1823 and Recorded in the Clerk's Office on the 5th April, 1823" (AccCoOrders 1822-1824, page 190).

This Waitman died early in 1823; on April 29, 1823, the Accomack Court:

"Ordered that Revell Dix, William Bagwell, and Levi Dix or any two of them, being first duly sworn, be commissioners to adjust and settle the Estate of Waitman Willett, decd, and make return thereof to the Court" (AccCoOrders 1822-1824, page 191).

On May 29, 1823:

"George D. Wise's Admr, Plt, against Waitman Willett, Deft: In Debt: Levin S. Joynes came into Court and undertook in common form as special bail for the Defendant, and ordered that the Office Judgment be set aside as to the Appearance Bail" (AccCoOrders 1822-1824, page 222).

On June 27, 1823, the Accomack Court ordered that:

"Sarah Willett, orphan of Waitman Willett, came into Court, and made choice of Levin B. Ayres for her guardian who thereupon gave bond according to Law in the sum of $2,000 with Edmund Ayres and Richard J. Ayres, Securities thereto" (AccCoOrders 1822-1824, page 131).

And on May 31, 1824:

> "An Inventory and Appraisement, Account of Sales and Audit and Settlement of Waitman Willett, dec'd, were returned and ordered to be Recorded" (AccCoOrders 1822-1824, page 415).

It will be left for another time to sort out the relationships of these Waitman Willetts. The main purpose in this section is to record as much original Court entries as can be located and make a beginning at sketching the families of each.

On November 28, 1825, Monday, the Accomack Court ordered that:

> "Sally Willett, orphan of Waitman Willett, came into Court and made choice of Richard Ayres for her guardian who thereupon gave bond according to Law in the sum of $1,000 with Thomas Ayres and Thomas Lewis, securities thereto" (AccCoOrders 1824-1827, page 233).

On January 29, 1827, at the Accomack Court:

> "On the motion of Levin White and it appearing to the Court that the widow relinquished taking oath and given bond according to Law on the sum of $1000 with Edmund Mason, and James P. Taylor securities thereto. Letters of Administration are granted him on the Estate of Waitman Willett, deceased, in due form" (AccCoOrders 1822-1827, page 471).

On February 26, 1827, at the Accomack Court it was ordered that:

> "On the application of Levin White, Administrator of Waitman Willett, decd, ordered that Levin S. Joynes, Charles Belote, and Thomas Levin or any two of them, being first duly sworn, be commissioners to state, adjust and settle the estate of the said Waitman Willett, deceased, and make report thereof to the Court" (AccCoOrders 1824-1827, page 487).

And on March 26, 1827, Court Quarter Session:

> "Inventory and Appraisement and amount of Sales of the estate of Waitman Willett, dec'd, was returned and ordered to be recorded" (AccCoOrders 1824-1827, page 494).

1. Waitman: b abt 1796 (1795-1800) in Accomack County, Virginia; m June 29, 1831, Betsey White (AccCoMar, page 35). (1810 census). On March 23, 1838, land belonging to Waitman was sold by the Sheriff (AccCoLand 1837-1839, page 332); Waitman must have died about 1840. See next P.1.5.2.3.1.

2. William: b 1795-1800; he sold land by bill of sale on December 25, 1837, to Edmund Mason (AccCoLand 1837-1839, page 332).

3. Sally: b 1800-1810; m December 31, 1825, William C. Dix (AccCoMar, page 57). (1810 census).

4. Tressy: b 1800-1810; chose John Bagwell for her guardian on December 25, 1820 (AccCoOrders 1819-1822, page 256).

P.1.5.2.3.1
WAITMAN WILLETT of Accomack County, Virginia

Waitman Willett was born about 1796 (between 1795-1800) in Accomack County, Virginia. He may have married 1st? about 1815 (wife's name unknown). He married (2d?) on June 29, 1831, Betsey White (AccCoMar, page 35).

On March 23, 1838, land belonging to Waitman was sold by the Sheriff (AccCoLand 1837-1839, page 332); Waitman must have died in 1840. In 1841, the court appointed a guardian for his orphaned children. The two generations of Waitman-William are very confused. There exists the possibly that there was only one Waitman-William generation, and that the one Waitman Willett had married more than once. However, the following list of children is tenatively proposed.

1. William: b abt 1815. There are 2 different William Willetts, who are both a son of a Waitman Willett, at this time and who are about the same age. William Willett, son of Waitman, married, before December 25, 1837, Polly Bloxom. This William Willett has brothers, John (died before December 25, 1837), Henry (who is not 21 in 1837), Jesse (an orphan in 1837), and a sister, Elizabeth (an orphan in 1837).

2. Jesse T: b April, 1826, in Accomack County, Virginia; orphan of the court in 1841; m in 1849 or 1850 Sarah A. Custis (or Cobb); he was a farmer and oyster packer; joined the Confederate Army; d before 1870. See next P.1.5.2.3.1.1.

3. Elizabeth: b abt 1828; orphan of the Accomack County, Virginia, court in 1841.

4. John: b abt 1830? died before December 25, 1837.

5. Henry: b abt 1832?

P.1.5.2.3.1.1
JESSE T. WILLETT and SARAH A. CUSTIS
of Accomack County and Gloucester County, Virginia

Jesse T. Willett was born in April, 1826, in Accomack County, Virginia. He was an orphan of the Accomack County court in 1841. About 1847, he came over the bay to Gloucester County. He may have came back and forth for a while.

Jesse married in 1849 or 1850 Sarah Ann Custis (or Cobb) (b 1830 in York County). He was a farmer and oyster packer. They made their home in the Abington District of Accomack County.

When the Civil War came, Jesse Willett joined the Confederate Army.

Jesse and Sarah Willett lived in Accomack County, Virginia, most of their lives. Later in life, they moved to Gloucester County, Virginia. He died sometime between 1880-1900.

(1850, 1860, 1870, 1880, 1900 Gloucester County census; Virginia Democracy, page 454)).

1. Franklin P: b 1853 in Gloucester County; attended school; was an oysterman in 1880. (1860, 1870, 1880 Gloucester County census).

2. Margaret A: b 1855 in Gloucester County. (1860, 1870, 1880 Gloucester County census).

3. John Henry: b October 28, 1859, in Gloucester County, Virginia; m 1st April 16, 1889, Kate Morris Hogg; m 2d May 18, 1903, Ada Wiatt Hogg (b 1876); d January 21, 1922. (1860, 1870, 1880 Gloucester County census). See P.1.5.2.3.1.1.3.

4. Mary Alice: b summer of 1860 in Gloucester County; m September 19, 1883, William P. Bushwood (b 1858), the son of James Bushwood and Elvia Southern. (1860, 1870, 1880 Gloucester County census).

5. Rosalia (Rosy) A: b 1863 in Gloucester County; m December 28, 1881, Robert C. Booker, farmer, a son of C. E. C. Booker and Frances A. Dutton.

6. Thomas Leonard: b March, 1870, in Gloucester County; m 1st in Gloucester County on May 23, 1895, Hellen Aurelia Williams (b 1876), the daughter of William Hunter Williams and Angelina Clements (b December, 1875); a farmer; m 2d at Suffolk, Virginia, on September 14, 1932, Edna Mouring (b 1878 in Warwick County, Virginia); resided at 2814 Marshall Avenue, Newport News, Virginia. (1900, 1910 Gloucester County census).

1. Jesse Thomas: b March 11, 1896, in Gloucester County. (1900, 1910 Gloucester County census).

2. Laurence F: b September, 1897, in Gloucester County; m 1st 1931 Lucille Shelton; m 2d Mildred K; resided at 1 Crawford Parkway, Portsmouth, Virginia; 1964. (1900, 1910 Gloucester County census).

P.1.5.2.3.1.1.3
JOHN HENRY WILLETT of Gloucester County, Virginia

John Henry Willett was born on October 28, 1859, in Gloucester County, Virginia. He married 1st in Gloucester County, Virginia, on April 18, 1888, Kate Morris Hogg (b 1870 in Gloucester County; d July 19, 1884), the daughter of James W. Hogg and Cornelia Hogg.

He was a farmer and oysterpacker and a deacon in the Baptist Church. John Henry Willett married 2d in Gloucester County on May 18, 1903, Ada Wiatt Hogg (b January 26, 1876), the daughter of James W. Hogg and Cornelia Hogg. John Henry Willett died on January 21, 1922, and is buried at Providence Baptist Church Cemetery, Gloucester County, Virginia.

(1900, 1910 Gloucester County census).

1. Cora Pearl: b February 23, 1890, in Gloucester County; in 1900, she was living with her grandfather, James W. Hogg; m April 18, 1918, Homer Fary Pitts, farmer, the son of John Washington Pitts and Lavina Hogg; no issue. (1900, 1910 Gloucester County census).

2. Thomas Alva: b May 16, 1891, in Gloucester County, Virginia; m April 12, 1917, Miss Marie Norman, the daughter of John Edward and Carrie Elizabeth (Carroll) Norman; d November 27, 1953. See next P.1.5.2.3.1.1.3.2.

3. Sarah (Sadie) Mabel: b December 2, 1892, Gloucester; in 1900 and 1910 she was listed in the William A. Haywood household as a neice; m June 30, 1918, Walter Roger Buck, Jr. (b 1891), the son of Walter Roger Buck, Sr., and Jane Rebecca Seawell. (1900, 1910 Gloucester County census).

4. Catherine (Kate) Morris: b July 2, 1894, Gloucester; in 1900 and 1910 she was listed in the household of her grandfather, James W. Hogg; m 1st March 17, 1918, Abram Brinkley Hux (b 1884), the son of William Henry Hux and Margaret Butt; m 2d William F. Pardue; d August 13, 1962. (1900, 1910 Gloucester County census).

5. Henry Irvin: b July 23, 1904, Virginia; m in June, 1929, Betty Wells Ballard (b October, 1957). (1910 Gloucester County census).

1. Henry Irving, Jr: b June 19, 1931; m 1st June, 1961, Mary Madison Turner; m 2d June, 1962, Doris Moore Long.

1. Henry Preston: b and d in 1962.

2. Rodney Turner: b 1963.

3. Scott Ryland: b 1964.

4. John Todd: b 1966.

2. Thomas Dunnaway: b November 15, 1942; m 1963, Jean Spottswood Martin.

P.1.5.2.3.1.1.3.2
THOMAS ALVA WILLETT and VIVIAN MARIE NORMAN of Portsmouth, Virginia

Thomas Alva Willett was born on May 16, 1891, in Gloucester County, Virginia. He was educated in Gloucester County and graduated from high school in 1908. In 1900, he was listed in the William H. Williams household as a nephew.

Thomas Alva Willett worked at The Four Company, wholesale grocers of Norfolk for 18 months, then at Seaboard Airline Railway Company until 1917. He then worked at the Norman Packing Corporation of Portsmouth, Virginia, as bookkeeper and workes his way up to president of the firm. He was also the vice-president of the Portsmouth Savings and Loan Corporation; a member of the Parkview Baptist Church; a past master of Americus Lodge No. 330, A. F. and A. M., of Portsmouth; a Kiwanis Club member and chairman of the Portsmouth School Board.

He married on April 15, 1917, to Miss Vivian Marie Norman, the daughter of John Edward and Carrie Elizabeth (Carroll) Norman. They resided (1927, 1931) at 1025 Leckie, Portsmouth, Virginia. Thomas Alva Willett, died on November 27, 1953. (Virginia Democracy, pages 454-455).

1. Thomas Alva, Jr: b July 12, 1920; m Eleanor Lane White.

    1. Nancy Eleanor: b 1948.

    2. Thomas A: b 1950.

2. John Norman: b November 14, 1921; unmarried (1967).

P.1.5.2.4

CHARLES C. WILLETT and MARY TURNER of Hunting Creek, Accomack County, Virginia

Charles C. Willett was born about 1780, the son of William Willett and Garthery Taylor of Hunting Creek. He was raised on his father's farm overlooking Hunting Creek. Since he is described as a "miller" he probably worked at the old Willett Mill then still owned by his uncle Jonathan.

The mill was on the Leemont-Bayside Road at what, after 1805, came to be known as Wiseville. Presently, all that is left at Wiseville is Drummond's Mill Farm (part of which was originally built by a Willett), the foundations to the old mill, and the foundation to what was then known as Wise's store. There wer two other mills in operation in the immediate area, one was Bayley's Mill on the South Fork of Hunting Creek (now Coard's Branch) and just south of the Willett Mill, and the other was Riley's Mill on the Eastern Fork of Hunting Creek (now Leemont Branch).

Charles C. Willett married on May 12, 1812, Mary Turner.

Soon after his marriage the War of 1812 began. The War was not popular on the Shore, and the old Federalist, General John Cropper, was elected to the State Senate in 1813. The British Admiral, Cockburn, occuppied nearby Tangier Island and used it as his base throughout the war. "Admiral Cockburn came in August 1813 and was in the area almost continuously until the war was ended late in 1814. From Tangier the Cockburn Fleet attacked and burned part of Washington, D.C., including the White House, on the night of August 24, 1814. Three weeks later they attacked and failed to take Baltimore and Fort McHenry where they provided the setting for the writing of The Star Spangled Banner" (Ebb and Flow, page 112).

An interesting episode of the war concerns Thomas M. Bayly, the owner of Bayly's Mill adjoining the old Willett Mill property.

> "At 7:30 on the morning of May 30, 1814, Lt. Col. Thomas M. Bayly, Commanding Officer of the Accomack County Militia and member of Congress from the First District of Virginia, was at his home near the county seat when he heard a very heavy cannonading and at the same time received word that seven barges were entering Onancock Creek. He went to Onancock and found that they were in Pungoteague Creek, about eight miles away, that he had come close to the mouth of Onancock Creek, caused an alarm to be sounded there, and then pursued his course down to Pungoteague...the bugle call for the British to return to their ships came as the Americans and British were advancing along fences which met at an angle and would soon have brought them in direct combat. His report concluded, Six wounded men or dead bodies were seen to be carried in blankets to their barges, and blood was found at three places. Our loss, one private badly wounded, but not dangerously. They entered their barges and made sail to their fort on Tangier. Others mentioned in Lt. Col. Bayly's report were Lieutenant Thomas Underhill, Captain Isaac Smith, and Major John Finney" (Ebb and Flow, pages 113-114).

In 1819, William Willett, consented to having the 42 acres which he held through his marriage to Garthery Taylor overlooking Hunting Creek, surveyed and divided between Charles C. Willett and Smith Melson, his son-in-law, who had married Anna (Mary) Willett

in 1816. This was probably because William intended to divide the land equally between his son and daughter. No deed of gift has been found, but William obviously did transfer half of the 42 acres to Smith Melson at some point in time.

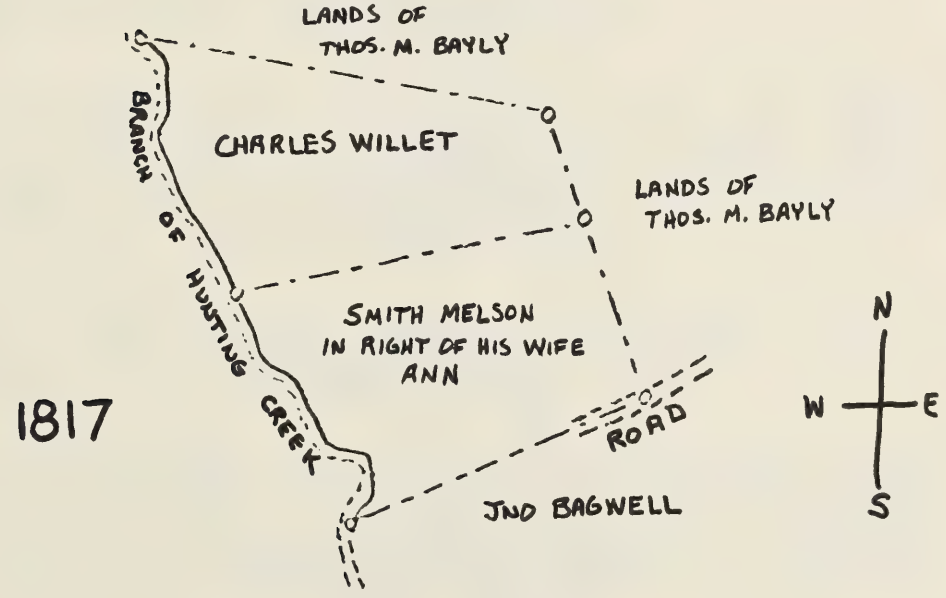
"Accomack, to wit:

April 9th, 1819: At the request of Mr. Charles Willet and Mr. Smith Melson and by the consent of Mr. William Willet, have surveyed the land where the said William Willit now resides, and which he holds for life, Situate on the head of Hunting Creek in the County afsd and Parish of Saint George and found the same to Contain Forty two acres and thirty four perches, and by the direction of Said Charles Willet and Smith Melson have divided the same Equally between them, which Charles Willet hath Twenty One Acres and seventeen perches on the North West part, and Smith Melson hath Twenty one Acres and Seventeen perches on the South East part and next to Bagwells Mill Pond in Right of his wife Ann. See the annexed Plat thereof.

By a scale of 10 Chs to the inch. I.S.

Isaac Smith D:S: A:C:"

(AccCoSurvey Records No. 5, page 23)



It is unknown what property Charles and Mary Willett sold on June 28, 1819, to John Johnson.

"A Deed from Charles Willett and Mary, his wife, to John Johnson (of Thos) was acknowledged by the said Charles and Mary as their act

and deed and ordered to be recorded. The Sd Mary being first examined privily and apart from her said husband as the Law directs and voluntarily consenting thereto" (AccCoOrders 1817-1819, page 407).

In 1820, his father, William Willett, left him the "whole of the residue" of his estate. This consisted of the 21 acres from the Garthery (Taylor) Willett land which fronted on the marshy end of the Southern Branch of Hunting Creek. On May 25, 1983, I walked this (which currently belongs to J. Fulton Ayres, Clerk of Court, Accomack County) with Carl Gray who showed me the gravestones that remain in a pine grove overlooking the Southern Fork (now known as Coard's Branch) just northwest of the abandoned Ayres farm house. The undergrowth was heavy, but 5 gravestones were found standing or lying on top of the soil. Their inscriptions read:

(1)
"Gertrude
Daughter of
Chas C. and Mary Willett
Born September 4, 1820
Died March 19, 1898"

(2)
"Waitman W. Willett
Son of Chas C. and Mary Willet
Born November 6, 1812
Died August 7, 1870"

(3)
"Sincerely
Smith Melson
Born 1 ... 20, 1799
Died November 20, 1851"

(4)
"Mary Willet
Daughter of Chas and Mary Willet
Born Apl 19, 1828
Died...19, 1832"

(5)
"John W. Willett
Son of
Chas C. and Mary Willett
Born May 11, 1821
Died August 18, 1843"

Most likely William Willett (d 1820) and his wife are buried here in unmarked graves. There may even be more gravestones, but the above 5 were all that were found at this time. Smith Melson had married Charles C. Willett's sister, Anna. She is buried at "Marino" which is located on the north side of the old Willett's Mill Pond. "Marino" was a

fine old seventeenth century house which was abandoned in recent years, and in 1982 was destroyed by fire leaving only the brick ends of the house still standing.

On December 25, 1820, Charles Willett probated the will of his father.

> "On the motion of Charles C. Willett, one of the Executors named in the last Will and Testament of William Willett, senr, decd, taking oath and giving bond according to Law in the sum of $1000.00 with John Y. Bagwell, and Henry Bagwell, securities thereto. A Certificate is granted him for obtaining a probate thereof in due form" (AccCoOrders 1819-1822, page 257).

On October 28, 1822, at the Accomack Court:

> "A Deed from Charles Willett and Mary, his wife, to John D. Parks was acknowledged by the said Charles and Mary as their act and deed and ordered to be Recorded. The said Mary being first privily examined apart from said husband as the Law directs and voluntarily consenting thereto" (AccCoOrders 1822-1824, page 84).

On February 28, 1825, at the Accomack Court:

> "A Deed from Charles Willett and Mary his wife to Cloady Speights was acknowledged by the said Charles and Mary as their act and deed and ordered to be recorded. The said Mary being first privily examined apart from her said husband as the Law directs and voluntarily consents to" (AccCoOrders 1824-1827, page 82).

(A Cleody Speight married a John Willett, Jr., sometime between February 28, 1825, and January 7, 1833. This John Willett was a son of William Willett).

On October 31, 1825, at the Accomack Court:

> "A Deed from Charles Willett and Mary his wife to Fanny Howard was acknowledged by the said Charles and Mary as their act and deed and ordered to be recorded. The said Mary being first privily examined apart from her said husband as the Law directs and voluntarily consents to" (AccCoOrders 1824-1827, page 224).

Perhaps Charles was selling off his inherited land; however, since his children are buried here continuously until 1898, it is not likely. Naturally, the family graveyard could have been used by either deeded right or custom even if the land was no longer owned by a Willett.

On May 25, 1835, Monday, Court Quarter Session:

"A Deed from Charles C. Willett to Polly Melson was acknowledged by said Charles as his act and deed and ordered to be recorded" (AccCoOrders 1832-1836, page 456).

This deed is most likely a deed for the 42 acres which his father William had intended for his sister Mary (Anna), married to Smith Melson since 1816.

On September 27, 1858, Monday, at the Accomack Court:

"Ordered that Charles C. Willett be exempt from taxation by reason of age" (AccCoOrders 1857-1860, page 305).

It is unknown when Charles Willett or his wife died. It would seem as though they should be buried in the family graveyard on their own farm. Perhaps, the undergrowth has hidden their stones, or perhaps their stones have fallen over and been covered by 100 years worth of accumulated vegetation.

1. Gartret (Gertrude) Taylor: b 1815? She was left $50.00 in 1820 by her grandfather, William Willett, "for the purpose of educating her." Her obituary is in the Peninsula Enterprise Newpaper on March 21, 1891.

"Willett-Near Wiseville, Thursday, MH 19th, Miss Gertrude Willet, aged abt 69 years."

2. Waitman W: b November 6, 1814; a farmer; m Betsey Gartery (b abt 1824); d August 7, 1870. See next P.1.5.2.4.2.

3. John W: b May 11, 1821; d August 18, 1843.

P.1.5.2.4.2
WAITMAN W. WILLETT and BETSEY GARTHERY
of Hunting Creek, Accomack County, Virginia

Waitman W. Willett was born November 6, 1814, in Accomack County, Virginia, probably on the old Charles C. Willett farm. He was raised on the Willett farm overlooking Hunting Creek.

He was a farmer. About 1840 he married Betsey Gartery (b abt 1824).

He died on August 7, 1870, and is buried in the old Willett grave yard overlooking Hunting Creek.

P.1.5.4

AMBROSE WILLETT and SUSANNA of Metompkin, Accomack County, Virginia

Ambrose Willett was born about 1732?. Ambrose's father, John, owned the blacksmiths shop which was his father's, the 180 acres of Drake's Neck, and Willett's Mill. Ambrose must have grown up here in the Willett farm house with its detached quarter kitchen which still survives as part of Drummond Mill Farm house. Here under his father's tutelage he would have learnt the trade of a miller and blacksmith.

It would only be natural to assume that Ambrose married about 1755. It is known that in 1792 his wife's name was Susanna.

As was more typical of old England than of the Eastern Shore, in 1762, he was bequeathed one shilling by his father. Perhaps, his father had help Ambrose Willett at the time of his marriage or when he was setting up his own mill.

Ambrose was able to come up with sufficient capital to go into business for himself. He operated a mill at Metompkin, and jointly owned 200 acres with William and Elizabeth Turner.

Ambrose Willet, William Bishop, and Thomas Willet witnessed the will of William Barnes on February 5, 1773; probate July 25, 1773 (AccCoWills 1772-1777, page 103).

In 1774, Ambrose Willet made purchases from the estate of Ezekiel Hitchens et ux.

In 1774, he purchased land from William Warner.

In 1778, he purchased land from Hezekiah White's exor.

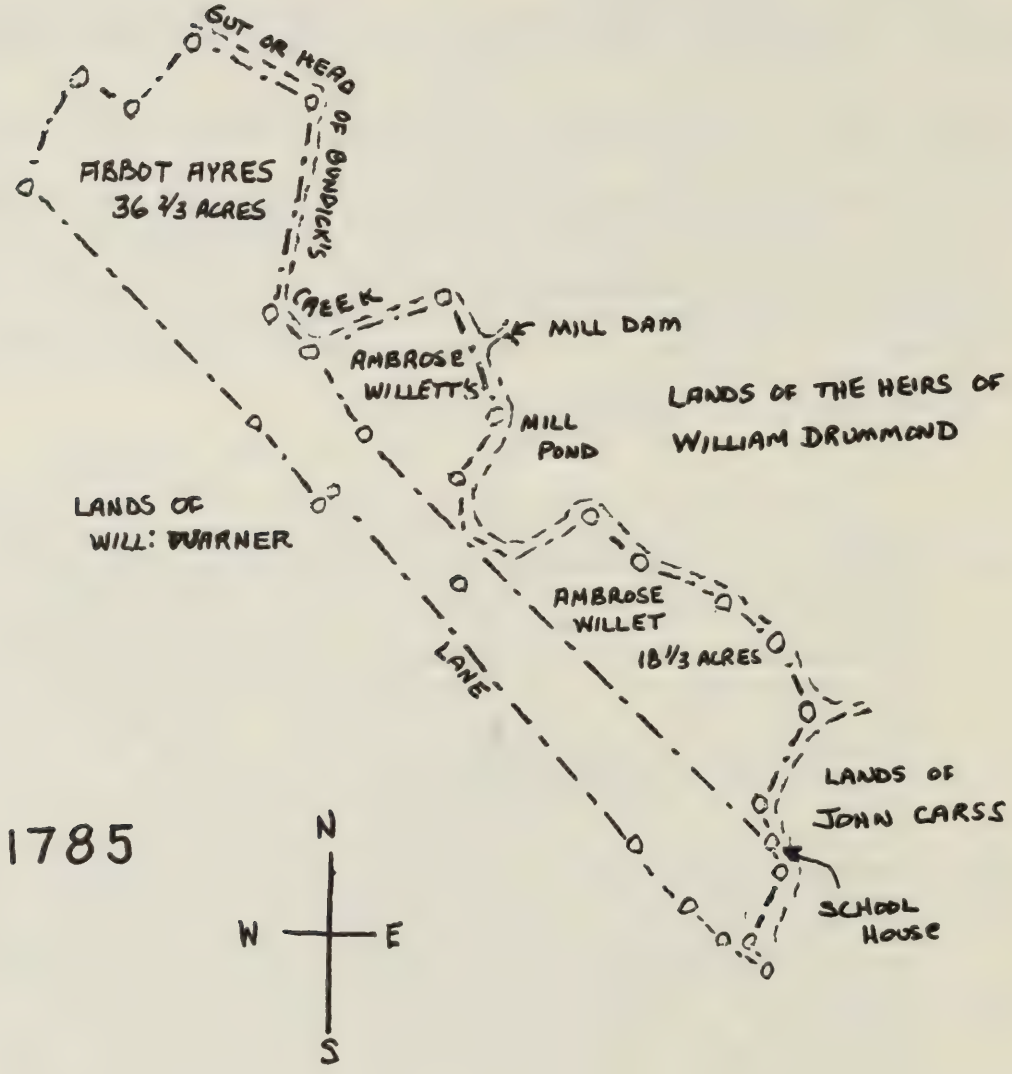
In 1780, he purchased land from Thomas Evans (AccCoGrantee Index 1770-1779, page 229; 1779-1783, pages 78 and 188).

In 1785, lands owned by Ambrose were surveyed.

> "May 21, 1785. Surveyed fifty five acres of land situate, lying and being in the Parish and County of Accomack, and bounded as follows, viz: On the N. E. by lines of marked trees dividing the premises from the lands of William Warner. On the N. W. by a branch ultimate issuing into the head of a creek which makes out from the head of Metompkin Broadwater, dividing the lands of John Carss. On the S. W. by the afsd. Branch dividing from the land of the heirs of John Sacker Barnes, dec'd and the other from the lands of William White. The premises being at present wholly in the possession of Ambrose Willet, tho' held by different rights, viz: thirty six acres and two thirds of an acre by the Curtesy (the fee in remiander of which was divided by Thomas Willet late dec'd to Abbot Ayres, son of Richard Ayres of the County afsd), and the remainder eighteeen acres and one third of an acre, in the proper right of the afsd Ambrose as of fee, under a late purchase from John Elmer. A Division of which afsd lands held by Curtesy and in fee is made by and with the Consent and direction of the afsd Ambrose Willet on the one part, and of Richard Ayres father and guardian of the afsd Abbot Ayres on the other part, by a line beginning at the afsd branch near a Spring and running thence N. 35.00 W. to a black Walnut tree and thence by a line of marked trees N. 46.30 W. to the head of the premises near a School house: whereof that part which lies on the S.W. of the said lines being eighteen acres and one third and acre is accepted by the sd Ambrose by and with the consent of the afsd Richard in behalf of his son Abbot, as the portion in fee of the afsd Ambrose, and that part which lies on the N.E. of the sd lines being thirty six acres and two

thirds of an acre is accepted by the afsd Richd for his aforesd son Abbot by and with the consent of the afsd Ambrose, as the portion in remainder in fee of the afsd Abbot. The bounds, Distances, Plat and Division more particluar as below."

Thomas Evans S.A.C.



Ambrose Willett's will is below:

"I, Ambrose Willit of Accomack County do make and Ordain this to be my last Will and Testament in manner and form following:

Imprimis Item: my wife Susanna Willet my part of the plantation whereon I now live, with Mill, House, and Orchard, etc., during her natural life provided she claim no Dower in the land I purchased of Hezekiah White's Representatives. I likewise give her forever one riding chair and harness and Grey Horse and Bed and Furniture, Spinning Wheel and chest, one Cow and Calf and one Cow with Calf, large iron pot and hooks, half the crop that is made in the place...whereon I now live, one logwood ax, one weeding hoe, three head of Sheep, 1 Plow and harrow, two hogs first and third choice, ten geese, half of the Dingle fowl, one weeding hoe and the Boy Thos till of age 12, the Casks, one third of my crop White's land.

Item: I give to my daughter, Betsey Wise Willit a small piece of land and bounded as follows, to wit: beginning at a marked post near the main Road and running toward Thomas Hickman's line to a post...by a line of marked trees to Cope's line...down Cope's line and to beginning. Likewise I give her my man and side saddle, one feather Bed and furniture with Bedstead, mat and cord, likewise one new Counterpane, the second choice of my pots and pot hooks, two Hogs second and fourth choice, Cow and Calf and young heifer, three head of Sheep, and one half of the crop made on the land whereon I now live, ten geese, half my Dingle fowl, one plow hoe and ax and harrow, Chest and whirl, one thord of the crop at my White place.

Item: I lend my Daughter Nancy Taylor the second choice of my Soril and black Horse, when my Soril horse is four years old, three Sheep during her life and then to be divided between her two children, James and Thomas Taylor.

Item: I give to my Son George Willit the remainder part of that plantation I purchased of Hezekiah White's representatives, likewise the revertion of the lands whereon I now live, likewise one Ewe and lamb, half the Casks of every kind, my wearing Cloaths, one third of my Crop at H. Whites place.

Item: I lend the one third remainder of my Estate to my Daughter Nancy Taylor during her life and at her Death I give it to my grandsons James Taylor and Thos Taylor.

Item: I give the remainder of my Estate to be divided between my wife and Daughter, Betsey. I appoint my Son, Geo: Willit, exer and my wife Executrix of this my last Will. In Testimony whereof I have set my Hand and Seal this 14th day of April, 1796.

Ambrose Willit (seal)

Acknowledged in
presence of
Parker Barnes
James Ailworth

> At a Court held in Accomack County, January 29th, 1798. The last Will and Testament of Ambrose Willit, dec'd, was proved by the Oaths of Parker Barnes and James Ailworth, Witnesses...and ordered to be recorded, and on the motion of Susanna Willit and George Willit taking Oath and giving George Snead and James Ailworth for Security who entered into and acknowledged a Bond for that purpose, certificate is granted them for obtaining probate thereof in due form.
>
> Teste: Litt: Savage Clk
>
> (AccCoWills 1796-1798, page 351)

His estate was sold on December 29, 1797. His estate sales totalled £ 67. 8. 8 3/4. Betsey, George, and Susanna Willett made purchases from the estate. Susanna Willett (most likely his widow) made extensive purchases.

1. Thomas: b abt 1755; m abt 1775 Betsey Wise; will dtd September 24, 1780. See next P.1.5.4.1.

2. Nancy: b 1775-1785; m Taylor; she was "lent 1/3 of the remainder" of her father's estate which then went to her 2 sons, James and Thomas Taylor.

3. George: b 1775-1785; m December 28, 1793, Nancy Riggs; in 1797, received 1/3 of his father's estate; will dtd 21 Jan 1813. See next P.1.5.4.3.

4. Elizabeth: b abt 1780.

P.1.5.4.1

THOMAS WILLETT and BETSEY WISE of Metompkin, Accomack County, Virginia

Thomas Willet born about 1755 and lived at the Metompkin Mill which belonged to his father. He married about 1755 Betsey Wise.

He predeceased his father by 17 years. His will is dated September 24, 1780, sealed June 25, 1782; inventory March 11, 1783.

> "In the name of God, Amen, the 24th September 1780. I, Thomas Willet, of Accomack County, Virginia, do make and ordain this my last Will and Testament in manner and former following:
>
> Item: I give all my land to Abbot Aires, son of Richard Aires, to him and his heirs and assigns forever.
>
> Item: I give one chest to Elizabeth Willit (sic).
>
> Item: I give all the remainder of my Estate to my Honoured Father, Ambrose Willet.
>
> Item: Lastly, I appoint Richard Aires Executor of this my last will and testament.
>
> Thomas Willet (seal)
>
> Sealed and Acknowledged
> in presence of:
> Charles Bagwell
> Ceasar Evans
>
> at a court held in Accomac Court, June 25th, 1782.
>
> This will was proved by the Oath of Charles Bagwell and Ceasar Evans witnesses thereto, and ordered to be recorded, and on the motion of Richard Aires taking Oath and giving Charles Bagwell for his security who entered into and acknowledged a bond for that purpose, certificate is granted him for obtaining a probate thereof in due form.
>
> (AccCoWills 1780-1784, page 187)
>
> Exam: Litt Savage"

It would seem that Thomas left no children. Elizabeth Willet in the will above may have been his wife, Betsey; otherwise her relationship is unknown. The close relationship to Abbot Aires is unknown.

In 1796, Betsey Willett inherited from her father-in-law, Ambrose Willett, a "small piece of land."

P.1.5.4.3

GEORGE WILLETT and NANCY RIGGS of Metompkin, Accomack County, Virginia

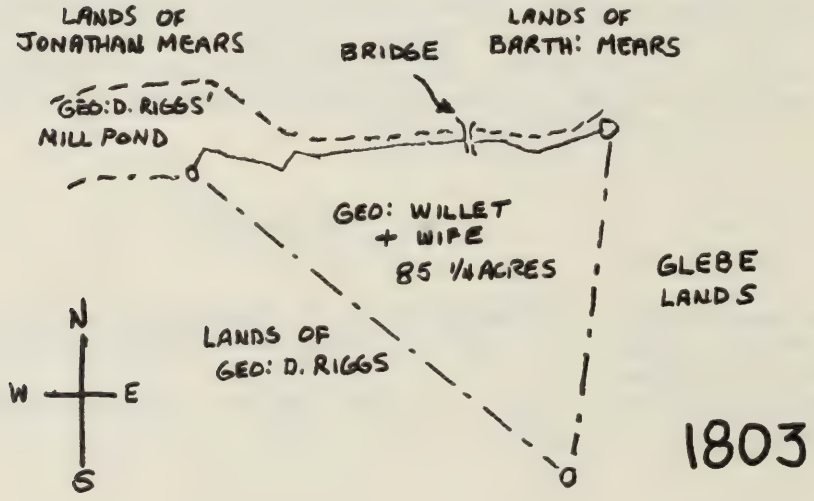
George Willett was born about 1770 (sometime between 1765 and 1785). He grew up at his father's Metompkin Mill.

He married on December 29, 1793, Nancy Riggs (b 1765-1772) the daughter of Isaac and Susanna Riggs, and the granddaughter of Joshua Riggs.

George inherited his father's plantation at Metompkin. He also inherited through his wife 85 1/4 acres on the bayside near Guilford bounded on the east by Glebe lands and on the north by Guilford Creek where the mill pond of George Riggs was located.

> "Accomack to wit: March 24, 1803:
>
> Surveyed at the request of Mr. George Willet, eight five acres and one quarter an acre of land, which the said George Willet holds in right of his wife, daughter and heir of Isaac Riggs, dec'd, situate near Guilford in the County afsd and bounded on the East by the Glege Lands belonging to the Parish of Accomack, on the South West by the lands of George D. Riggs and on the North by the Mill pond of the Sd George D. Riggs and the branch running into the same.
>
> Thomas Evans, Sur:Acc:Co:

(AccCoSurvey Records No.3, page 75)



In the 1800 census he had a household of one male under 10, one female under 10, and one female 10-26. This second female may have been his sister, Nancy Taylor, who had been widowed prior to 1797.

On March 10, 1801, he sold land to James Ailworth (AccCoLand 1800-1804, page 99).

On March 31, 1801 he is involved in a law suit:

"George Willett and Nancy, his wife, Plts versus Charles West Exor of Charles West, Def: In Case: The Court ordered that "the Plt recover against the Deft. the sum of twenty pounds Six shillings and six pence ..." (AccCoOrders 1800-1804, page 49).

On February 25, 1805:

"A Deed from William Warner and Elizabeth Warner to George Willett was acknowledged by the said William and Elizabeth as their act and Deed and ordered to be recorded" (AccCoOrders 1804-1805, page 215).

George Willet was involved in another law suit on June 30, 1806:

"George Willett, Plt, against William Hinman, Deft: On Petition: Agreed Dismissed" (AccCoOrders 1806-1807, page 115).

He wrote his will on Janurary 21, 1813:

"I George Willett of Accomack County of the State of Virginia, do make and ordain this to be my last will and Testament in manner and form following: to wit:

Imprimis item: that Land that belonged to my wife on Bayside to be sold and the money arising from the sale thereof to pay my just debts, and to buy a negro boy.

Item: I lend my wife, Ann Willet, the plantation whereon I now live and the negro boy that is to be purchased, and the remainder of the money that the Bayside land sell for, with the whole of my personal Estate during her life or widowhood, and at her death or marriage, I give to my two youngest children, Sarah and George, twentyfive pounds each, and that for all my lands and other Estate to be equally divided between my Children, that is Betsey, Isaac, James, Edward, Sarah, and George.

I constitute and appoint my wife Executrix and my best friend William White (of Wm) Executor of this my last will and Testament in testimony thereof I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal this 21st day of January 1813.

George Willet (seal)

Signed sealed and acknowledged
in presence of
Parker Barnes
Isaiah E. Wise

> At a session Court of Law held for Accomack County the 3rd day of May 1813. The last will and Testament of George Willet, dec'd, was proven by the Oaths of Parker Barnes and Isaiah E. Wise, witnesses thereto and ordered to be recorded and on the motion of Ann Willett and William Wise (of Wm) the Executrix and Executor, therein took the Oath prescribed by Law and together with Parker Barnes and Levi Dix thus ... into and acknowledge a bond in the penalty of one thousand dollars conditioned as the Law directs certificate is granted them for obtaining a probate thereof in due form.
>
> Truly recorded Teste: Richard D. Bayly
>
> (AccCoWills 1807-1930, page 191)

George Willett had died on March 4, 1813. On June 27, 1814, his widow acknowledged a deed:

> "A Deed from Nancy Willett to Henry Young was acknowledged by the said Nancy as her act and deed and ordered to be recorded" (AccCoOrders 1812-1814, page 431).

On August 28, 1815, at the Accomack Court:

> "Ordered that John Bundick, Jacob Warner, and Geroge Snead or any two of them do audit and settle the Estate of George Willett, dec'd, and make return to the Court" (AccCoOrders 1815-1817, page 118).

And on February 21, 1816:

> "An Inventory and Appraisement, Account of Sales and Audit and Settlement of the Estate of George Willett, dec'd, were returned and ordered to be recorded" (AccCoOrders 1815-1817, page 218).

George Willett's, widow, Nancy, married on June 15, 1817, as her second husband, John B. Edwards. On June 27, 1818, the Accomack Court appointed a guardian for two of George's children:

> "Isaac and James Willett, orphans of George, came into Court and made choice of John Cleopes for their guardian and the said John Cleopes is appointed guardian to Sarah and George Willett, orphans of the same, and thereupon he gave bond according to Law in the sum of Two thousand dollars with Henry Bagwell, John B. Walker, and Henry Cleopes, securities thereto" (AccCoOrders 1817-1819, page 96).

On July 26, 1819:

> "Isaac R. Willett to John S. Bundick: Deed Conveying in fee simple 12 acres more or less of Land: Acknowledged by the said Isaac in the Clerk's Office 3rd July 1819 and admitted to record 26" (AccCoOrders 1817-1819, page 409).

In June 2, 1820, a Partition suit was brought by John B. Edwards, husband of Nancy Willett, widow.

> "Edwards, et ux, etc. versus Partition Suit, Willitt etc.
>
> "That a certain George Willett, late of this county, departed this life on the 4th day of March, 1813, leaving a will dated 21 Jan 1813 and a widow, Nancy Willett, now wife of the said John B. Edwards, and the following children, to wit: Elizabeth, Isaac, James, Edward, Sarah, and George, and no other children;
>
> that since the death of the said George Willett, to wit: on the 10 May 1817, Edward, one of the children of the said George Willett, departed this life an infant and intestate;
>
> since the death of the said George Willett, to wit: on the 15 day of June in the year 1817, your oratrix, Nancy Willett, intermarried with the said John B. Edwards;
>
> that the said George Willett directed his land on Metompkin to be equally divided between his said children;
>
> that on the 6 Sep 1819, the said Isaac Willett, child of the said George Willett, dec., conveyed all his interest in said land to the said John S. Bundick;
>
> that on the 16 May 1819, your oratrix intermarried with your orator, William Lumboard;
>
> that at the time of his death the said George Willett was seized of a tract of land on Metompkin containing 50 acres which was directed by the said George Willett to be equally divided as follows: 1/3 to the said Nancy to be held by her and her husband, John B. Edwards as dower during her life, the balalnce to be divided between the said John S. Bundick who purchased of said Isaac Willett, and William Lumbord and Elizabeth his wife, and the said James, Sally, and George Willett, etc.
>
> 2 June 1820"
> (Land Clauses Accomack County, Virginia 1727-1826, page 93).

1. Elizabeth: b 1795 (1795-1800); m February 10, 1820, William Lumber (Lumboard) (AccCoMar, page 21).

2. Isaac: b abt 1797 (1795-1800); sold his interest in his father's estate to John S. Bundick on September 6, 1819.

3. Sarah (Sally): b 1801 (1800-1810); in 1813, received an inheritance of L 25 from her father's estate.

4. George: b 1803? (1800-1810); in 1813, received L 25 from his father's estate.

5. James: b abt 1805 (1800-1810).

6. Edward: b May 10, 1817; died an infant intestate.

CHAPTER SEVENTEEN
NORTHAMPTON COUNTY, VIRGINIA

Q.1
JOHN WILLETT of Old Plantation Creek, Northampton County, Virginia

Before the settlement of the New World had even been attempted, the new land to the west across the vast expanse of ocean was envisioned as "a land veined in gold and blazing with precious stones." At least this is the picture that was promised, with much gorgeous detail, by a geographer of Welsh extraction named Richard Hakluyt who had never been west of Bristol! Hakluyt assured everyone who was willing to listen that America was a land "of huge and unknown greatness." At least in this prediction he was not far wrong.

Ben Johnson elaborated this theme in a play he wrote, with a couple of friends, in which the following conversation occurs between an intending immigrant and a sea captain. The sea captain in that year (1605) may have already touched America, since Sir Walter Raleigh had been off the Carolina coast several times, and sea captains regularly fished off of the northern coast of the new world. To the listener's doubts as to whether what would become Virginia was already inhabited by Englishmen and whether or not any treasure had ever been found there, the sea captain goes off into this dithyramb:

> "A whole country of English is there, man ... they have married with the Indians who are in love with 'hem that all the treasure they have they lay at their feete ... I tell thee, golde is more plentiful there than copper is with us ... Why man, all their dripping pans and chamber pots are pure gold ... for rubies and diamonds, they goes forth on holy days and gather 'hem by the seashore, to hang on their children's coates and sticke in their caps ... then you shall live freely there, without sargeants, or courtiers, or lawyers, or intelligencers" (Cooke, page 62).

With advertizing like this there was no lack of willing immigrants to settle the new world. Land was scarce in "old" England. The promise of owning your own land, even if it was across the ocean, was a great promise.

What motives brought John Willett to Northampton County in the Colony of Virginia before 1679 are unknown. Where he came from in old England is also unknown. There is nothing in the record to tell us when John Willett was born, or where. Working backwards from when he is first mentioned would place his birth no later than 1646; a date closer to 1640, or even in the 1630s, would be more likely. Perhaps he was related to the Abraham Willett of Bristol who adventured to Virginia for the space of about eight years in the 1650s. One highly suspect tradition has a son of James Willett of Massachusetts Colony (and the grandson of Captain Thomas Willett of Plymouth and New Amsterdam) settle on the Eastern Shore about this time. Our John Willett may have even been a native born Virginian, but this is unlikely. Although all the records are mute, he must have come from a well-to-do family of either social or merchant wealth. There was something which was behind his venture to the new world, and that something was of sufficient importance that he was able to be accepted into the highest level of society and become one of the King's representatives. John Willett was most likely an Englishman, but he could have come over by way of the English community which lived in Holland. Whether he came directly from England, or from Holland, his ship would have stopped at England at Gravesend or Plymouth were the passengers would have had to swear allegiance to the King. The

ship he came over on would have been of approximately 90 tons, at a time when a crossing of six weeks was considered a blessing, and when it was not unusual to take 12 weeks on a "rough" crossing. John Willett would most likely land at Jamestown, cross over to York and take the weekly ferry to the Shore.

John Willett came to a land which British Sovereigns of the seventeenth century addressed as "Ye Colony of Virginia and Ye Kingdom of Acchawmacke." So much was the Eastern Shore considered a land apart from the settlements on the western mainland, that in 1637 no one could leave the Shore without a passport.

The John Custis family of Rotterdam, Holland, and "Arlington" in Accomack County, Virginia, would have a large influence on John Willett. The earliest mention of John Willett, of Northampton County, Virginia, is in the 7 Feb 1669 certificate for transportation issued to Captain John Custis. John Custis had arrived in Virginia about 1650, or a little before. His son-in-law, Colonel Argoll Yardley had granted him 600 acres of land which was due him (Yardley). In 1665 he was High Sheriff for Northampton; he was one of the county justices for many years, was on the governor's council, and was a Major General of the Shore Militia (Whitelaw, page 109). It is worth noting that the John Custis family (father and son) had came from Rotterdam, Holland.

The London Company had ordained that any person who paid his own way to Virginia should be assigned 50 acres of land for his own personal adventure and 50 acres of land for each other person he transported at his own expense:

> "It is not to be assumed that the claim for land in consequence of a person transported was made immediately after the arrival of the headright in the colony. There is, for instance, record of a patentee awarded land for the transportation of three wives, who, it is safe to conclude, were successive. The headrights may have arrived in the Colony long before the patentee had entered claim for land thereby due. Nor is it to be assumed that the headright is necessarily an immigrant. Even men of prominence in the Colony, though a voyage or repeated voyages to England and return, appear as headrights of friends or relatives, who acquitted the cost of passage in order to obtain the consequent land" (Cavaliers and Pioneers, page xxv).

John Willett can be supposed to have arrived at some date before the certificate was issued to Custis, although it is not unusual for a certificate to be granted as much a year or two after an arrival. Thus, he arrived about 1667 or 1668.

Another prominent member of the Shore who was to have a large influence on the life of John Willett was Colonel Edward Douglas. It is strange, but John Willett never knew or met Colonel Douglas. Perhaps, John's father (unknown at present) knew Douglas in Rotterdam or England in the 1630s and 1640s. However, there is no reason for supposing this, and thus it is extremely unlikely. Colonel Douglas was active in public life as befitted a man of his enormous wealth. He had acquired the old Dale Plantation of 3700 acres which straddled the whole of the peninsula from Old Plantation Creek to the seaside.

Since this patent is so central to the story of the Willett family of Northampton County a sketch of its history is noted. Sir Thomas Dale, Knight, Marshall of Virginia, was granted by the Virginia Company a large track on the Shore on February 25, 1610/11. Sir Thomas Dale had ventured 700 pounds in the Virginia Company, and thus was entitled to 5,600 acres of land. His holdings at Old Plantation Creek came to only 3,700 acres, but

he may have had other land holdings at one of the western shore plantations. Although Sir Thomas Dale was granted the land by the Virginia Company, he also bought the Shore land from the Indians at the Cape in 1614. He died in 1619, and left his estate to his wife Dame Elizabeth Dale (Whitelaw, pages 95-96). Dame Elizabeth died in 1640 and left her executors, Richard Hamby and William Shrimpton the moiety of her estate. Samuel Chandler, a London Merchant, who was bound for Virginia in 1641 acted as attorney for the estate. In 1645 a patents for 1,000 acres, which in 1649 was increased to 2,000 acres, was confirmed to Shrimpton. Shrimpton assigned this 2,000 acres to Edward Douglas (who was a cousin of Lady Dale). Edward Douglas had received a patent for 1,100 acres in 1644, and 600 acres in 1657; thus, with the Dale 2,000 acres he owned 3,700 acres.

Colonel Douglas' immediate neighbor was Captain John Custis who began the Custis family of note. Whether or not the Custis ancestral home on Old Plantation Creek was known as "Arlington" at this early date is uncertain. The old Dale plantation, was just adjacent and east of Arlington.' No trace of it is known at present.

William Burkett had been a commissioner and man of wealth in Northampton County. He may have been in partnership with Edward Douglas in the old Dale plantation. For some reason, Burkett claimed a share in the old Dale lands.

> "At a Court held September, 1657, Thomas Burkett, the son and heir of William Burkett, claimed the lands of Edward Douglas as being in right of his father" (Crowson, page 59).

Colonel Douglas must have successfully defended this claim, for no mention of it is made after the Colonel's death. Colonel Douglas died in 1657 and left the whole of his estate to his son, Edward. Since Colonel Douglas' estate, the old Lady Dale Plantation on Old Plantation Creek became the basis for the Willett fortune in Northampton County, Colonel Douglas' will is given here in its entirety. As a matter of record, Edward Douglas spelled his name Dowglas throughout the will. He also was a cousin of Edmund Bowman of Accomack County, Virginia.

"Edward Dowglas, his will
15th of October, 1657.

My Lord and my God, in whose blessed name I make and ordain this my last will and Testament in manner and form as followeth. And this manner and forme is the true intent and meaning of mee, Edward Dowglas of the County of Northampton in Virginia, gent. And being very sick and weak in body, But of true and perfect sense and memory (and praised be my god) I doe ordaine this my Last will and Testament.

Imprimis: I doe give and bequeath to my Redeemer my soul And my body to be decently interred att the discretion of my Loveing ffriend And for the orderinge thereof I doe refer to my Dearly beloved wife Isabella Dowglas and my Loveing ffriende Mr. Edmund Boweman and his wife (if it please god that I departe this natural life here att their house).

Item: I give and bequeath unto my youngest Daughter Elizabeth Dowglas ten Heiffers, five of them to bee aged about twoe yeares; and the other five each of them one yeare old; And one Mare Coulte; the

first that shall fall of either of my Mares; Alsoe I give my said Daughter Elizabeth Dowglas one double Ta..a..eze silke coverlidd with said cattle; mare coulte and silke coverlidd; my will and desire is that immediately after my decease; they maye bee sett aparte solely for her use towrade ye producinge her a stocke or portion; Also I give to Elizabeth one piece of plate of the value Seven pounde sterlinge money.

Item: my will and desire is that Mr. Edward Littleton bee ... intrust and for my said Daughter, Elizabeth Dowglas, to see to the improvement of my said child, her portion, until she attain unto age (or be married).

Item: I doe give unto my said Daughter Elizabeth Dowglas one feather bed; with all furniture thereunto belonginge; And I doe refer the choice of the Bedd to my Loveinge wife Issabella Dowglas; which Bed is to be delivered to my said Daughter Elizabeth Dowglas either att the daye of her marriage or att the tyme of my wife her death; which shall first intervene.

Item: my will and desire is that my Daughter Sara, who is contracted unto Mr. Edward Littleton, shall immediately after marriage is solmenized between them, have and bee possessed of the goode and chattles hereafter nominated and expresses (viz) Twenty five heade of cattle, to bee aged from three years to seven years, which are to bee cowes and steeres. Item one Mare called Rose with all her future increase. Item: one Bedd with the furniture, such a Bed as Mr. Littleton shall like of. Item: towe silver wine cupes marked with "S:D:" Item: one silver salte and one Dutch cupboard; And for all other household stuffe necessary for my sd Daughter Sara; I refer to the discretion of my Loveinge wife Issabella Dowglas (Except one great Iron bound case which I also give to my Daughter Sara Dowglas). All the rest of my plate I leave to my wife; And if it should please god that my mortallitye (or otherwise) The sd Mr. Edward Littleton and my Daughter Sara should not bee married; then my will is that the portion above mentioned, stand good in House and is hereby confirmed to my Daughter Sara Dowglas and her heires.

Item: I give to my well beloved sonne Edward Dowglas my old mare with all her future increase; (not contradictory to any thinge aforesaid); And I give him my best sworde and Belte.

Item: I give to my cousen Edmund Boweman, his children, the second Mare Coulte which shall fall of all my Mares (And if she live and have increase) That her produce bee equally divided betweene my sd Cousen Boweman, his children.

Item: I give to Margaret Hutchinson three pounde sterlinge to buy her a Ringe to bee paid her within Twelve months after my decease.

Item: I give to Simon Hutchinson, ye sonne of Simon Hutchinson, of Middlesex, towe yeare old Heiffer and all their increase to bee marked and delivered by my Executrix within one yeare after my decease.

Item: I doe ordaine and make my Dearly beloved wife Issabella Dowglas ... and sole Executrix of this my last will and Testament desireinge her that in the first place she satisfie and paye all just debts which I stand ingaged to any person or persons in Virginia. And to the best of her ... to see this my last will and Testament faithfully performed (accordinge to the true intent and meaning thereof).

Item: I doe give to my well beloved friend Margery, ye wife of Henry Williams, one Towe yeare old Heiffer, with all her increase to bee delivered her within Twelve months after my decease.

Item: As a remembrance and token of my love, I give and bequeath to my wife Issabella Dowglas Tenn Cowes and all their increase which I desire maye bee her owne stocke and att her disposeing to whome she please. It is further explained that ye number of Cowes aforesaid mentioning wife, are to bee sett apart (after the Debts are paid).

Item: I give and bequeath to my deare friend Mr. Edward Littleton my best hatt and ye hatt case; and to bee delivered to him presently after my decease by my Executrix.

Item: my will and desire is that Alexander Macefield maye live in my house and have his diet for his worke att his erade (as formerly) And I give him a cloath suite of cloathse.

Item: I give unto my servante Clarke and Grante to each of them one Cowe calfe when they are free; to bee paid by my Executrix the next spring after.

Item: I give unto each of my men servants which are now living with mee (beside these towe aforenamed) a Cowe calfe to bee delivered to them the next springe after their time is expired.

Item: I doe give to my maide servant Joane, one Cowe yeares olde and all her increase to bee delivered her ye next spring after she is free (provided that she continue her faithful service towarde my wife) And I desire that all my servants will performe their service and obedience with that care and respect they might to doe Towarde my well beloved wife and Executrix Issabella Dowglas and my friend Mr. Edward Littleton (in all Respecte whatsoever).

Item: my desire is that Susanna Price shall have a Cowe yeare old heiffer to bee delivered her with in one yeare after my decease provided that she please her Mrs.

I give Edmund Mathewe Clerke of the Court Three hundred pounde of Tobacco for writinge my will.

I doe make, constitute and ordaine my well beloved sonne Edward Dowglas my sole heire of all my Lande, tenemte, and Hereditants whatsoever appertaining unto mee in Virginia or elsewhere; And my great Copper Crutoron freely to possesse to him and his heires forever; (After ye decease of my Executrix). Alsoe I doe give unto my said Heir (After my debts and Legacies before specified bee fully satisfied and paid) The moiety of all the rest of my cattells and chattells to be equally divided between him and my said executrix. And after such division made, his moiety to remaine sett aparte in the custodye of my Executrix. And at the age of Eighteen yeares then to bee delivered unto him fully to possess and enjoy to him, his heirs; Exers, Admrs, and Assigns for ever; And in the Interim (during my said Heire his minority) my sd Executrix is to Educate him in Learninge and in the feare of god.

Further my will and desire is that my dearly beloved ffriend Capt Francis Pott, Major Wm: Waters, Mr. Edward Littleton, Mr. Wm: Kendall, and Mr. Wm: Mellings will be pleased to councell, Advice, Assist, and direct my deare and loveinge wife Issabella Dowglas, my Executrix, of this my last will and Testament, in any business, suite in Land, or in ... of concernment in relation of my sd Estate, for ye benefit and profit of

my Deare wife and Loveinge children. And I doe earnstly intreat them for the Lord's sake, to grante my Request herein. To Act ye same as occasion maye require; In Testimony that this is my Reall Act and last will and Testament, I have hereunto subscribed my hand and fixed my seal, the day and yeare first above specified.

Edward Dowglas
ye Seale

Signed, Sealled, published
witnessed, delivered in presence
of Will: Mellings, Thos Evans

Att a Court holden att Northampton, ye 12th of November, 1657.
(AccCoDeed and Will Book VII, pages 76-78

It is interesting to note, that all of Edward Douglas' friends were Commissioners at one time or another, and they all were men of note and great wealth. Henry Williams was an "ancient planter" who had come to the Shore in 1615, and lived at Old Plantation Creek (Crowson, pages 4, 13, 16-17). Edward Littleton died in 1663; Captain Pott died in 1658. William Mellinge was the county clerk and returned to London in 1661. He sold his two plantations at the head of Old Plantation Creek to William Kendall (Crowson, page 70). It is obvious from Colonel Douglas' friends that he was a man of great importance.

Colonel Douglas' widow, Isabella, later married the Reverend Thomas Teackle, who was the minister for Hungar's Parish. She was still living in 1670-1671. Edward Douglas, the son and heir of the Colonel, died intestate in 1661, and the whole of the 3700 acre plantation inheritance passed to his sister, Elizabeth, who was just 5 years old at the time. Thus, Elizabeth Douglas became one of the richest and most eligible of heiress' in the whole of the Colony of Virginia.

In 1656, Colonel Douglas' oldest daughter, Sara, at the age of 12, was engaged to be married to her father's friend, Edward Littleton. Colonel Douglas approved of the pending marriage, however he died before the marriage took place. Sarah's death, in childbirth in 1658, was of such scandalous note that it is mentioned in the county records.

At some point, Elizabeth Douglas was engaged to be married to Captain John Martin. However, Captain Martin departed the Shore, evidently for England, and died leaving a will which gave his property in Virginia to Elizabeth Douglas and Thomas Teackle. Mr. John Willett was appointed to administer the estate of Mr. John Martin.

Our story now takes a story-book turn. For the executor of Captain Martin's estate, our John Willett proposed to Elizabeth Douglas. She was about 16 years old and rich. John Willett was described as a "Merchant." The marriage contract was taken out at the County Court on November 24, 1669. Because of the "old style" of dating the year, this marriage could have taken place as late as 25 Mar 1670 (new style). With this marriage, John Willett became one of the wealthiest and most prominent landholders in Virginia and a respected man of affairs in the Colony. John Willett's title of "merchant" could lead us to speculate that he was at least the third son of a family of prominence in England (or an English family living in Holland).

"During the Seventeenth Century trades were in relatively high repute in England, and many sons of the gentry resorted to them. A country gentleman usually left his estate to his eldest son; the second son was sent to a university to prepare for one of the learned pro-

> fessions, and the other sons might be apprenticed to some local merchant or artisan to learn a trade. Thus, many merchants were related to country squires, and a sizeable part of the Virginia aristoracy came from this source" (Crowson, page 120).

The reason that Holland is advanced as the possible area from which John Willett immigrated is that both the Custis family and the Douglas family came to the "new" world by way of Holland. Also, as will be seen later, much of John Willett's household furnishings are of Dutch origin. In fact there are more Dutch items in his household than one would expect there to be by chance.

Virginia was a land of indentured servants. It is true that the English shipped the first black to Virginia in 1620 on board the Dutch ship, "Jesus of Lubeck." But, by 1660, there was fewer than 300 blacks in the whole colony. However, by the 1680s this would change, and black slaves would be coming into the colony at the rate of 6,000 per year.

By 1671, practically all of Tidewater, Virginia, had been settled, and much land on the Eastern Shore had been taken up by numbers of prominent families who had developed estates and plantations on the numerous rivers, bays, and estuaries, chiefly on the Bay side of the peninsula where the land was more fertile and where the planters had safer avenues for the traffic of their goods. This is particularly true of Northampton County, and less so of the more northern Accomac. These plantations were neither villages nor the entails of the feudal manors, such as the Dutch had developed on the Hudson River. Rather, they were country hamlets that enclosed every step of production, from planting the crops to shipping them. What was unique was the wealth of tide waters which were avenues into a fertile land.

> "The plantations were always laid out by a river that ran to the sea. There was no call to build towns or ports, no need for overland transport to harbors. Each landing was its own port, every lawn an assembly line."

This was true of the Willett tract (N17) which began at the seaside and stretched across the peninsula, ending at Old Plantation Creek at the site of the old Dale Plantation and the Douglas home. This is were John Willett established his home at a location where shallow draft craft could come right up to his landing. He had inherited a thriving cattle enterprise, but with 3700 acres he must have been engaged in every aspect of plantation life.

John Willett must have settled down to lead the life of a gentleman and to devote much time to politics. Since his most tangible wealth came through his marriage to Elizabeth Douglas, he became involved in litigation concerning the Douglas inheritance. He had an interesting case before the October 21, 1671, Court held at James City. John Willett would have had to either take the weekly ferry to York Town and then travel to James City, or he would have had to hire a sailing vessel to take him directly to James City. Either way, the trip to the Court at James City would have taken a considerable amount of his time. The old fort at Jamestown was still standing, and he could have sailed right up to the wharf and disembarked there. The statehouse was newly built of brick (and the foundations can still be seen at Jamestown). Middle Plantation (Williamsburg) had not even begun to take on the characteristics of a town. The Royal

Governor was Thomas Ludwell heard the case, along with Secretary Major General Smith, Colonel Read, Colonel Swan, and Lieutenant Colonel Parke, Esquire.

> "In the difference between John Willett as guardian to Wm...Willett his child plt and Mr. Ffrancis Pigott Defendt about Severall goods made over by Mr. Edward Littleton decd (died 1663) to Mrs. Sara Douglas alsoe Decd (died 1658) is suspended at the request of the defendt till the case be Stated and sent for England and the opinions of some of the Judges be transmitted hither therein, and the Said Pigott give bond with Security that the estate soe made over by said Deed be forth comeing upon further order being now in his possession" (Minutes of the Council and General Court of Colonial Virginia, page 265).

The above sketch was made in 1620. Jamestown would have been little changed in 1671, except that the town would have now reach out to the east beyond the fort.
From Scheeps-Togt van Anthony Chester Na Virginia, gedaan in het yaar 1620.
Printed at Leyden by Peter Vander, 1707.

This dispute must have concerned some of the inheritance belonging to Sara Douglas. Also, it may have had been directed at an alleged Douglas inheritance which awaited the rightful claimant in England. Elizabeth (Douglas) Willett thought she was entitled to an inheritance in England, and even returned to England in 1684 in the expectation that at least part of it would be awarded her. She was unsuccessful, and returned to Virginia and settled in Yorktown. Frances Robins was the second wife of Francis Pigott and widow of Mr. Edward Littleton. Mr. Thomas Teackle and his wife Isabella (Douglas) Teackle had successfully sued Mr. Francis Pigott for 4,000 pounds of tobacco in December, 1670, and the case had been referred, on appeal, to James City (Crowson, page 87). There was also a Douglas fortune in "old" England which Elizabeth (Douglas) Willett would unsuccessfully attempt to claim in the mid 1680s.

This litigation places William Willett's birth in or very close to the year 1670. How, a child of barely one year became heir to part of the estate of Sarah (Douglas) Littleton is unknown, especially since Sarah (Douglas) Littleton had died in childbirth in 1658, a full 13 years before this suit.

Other legal problems occupied his attention in 1671. John Willett had been the executor of the estate which Captain John Martin had left in Virginia. Evidently, Captain Martin had made a gift of everything he owned in Virginia to Elizabeth Douglas in the expectation that they would marry. Instead, Martin died while on a journey to England. John Willett as executor of the Martin estate gave everything which Martin had to his future wife, Elizabeth Douglas. However, some of the goods which he transfered to her had actually been shipped to Virginia after Captain Martin had died, and so did not belong to his estate. This appears to be the background of the next two entries. At a General Court held at James City the 21th of November, 1671:

> "The difference between Mr. Waters and Mr. Willett is referred to the third Day of the next Court" (Minutes of the Council and General Court of Colonial Virginia).

Again, John Willett would have made the long journey to James City. This time, the case was postponed and he would have to return in the spring. Actually, these trips broke the routine of plantation life, and although he did not look forward to the litigation, he probably looked forward to his several day stay in James City. The case was finally heard on the 28th of March, 1672, by Governor Henry Corbyn, Mr. Secretary Edward Digges, Major Generall Bennett, Coll. Swann, Coll. Bacon, and Coll. Spencer, Esqr.

> "In the difference depending between Major Wm Waters, Attorney of Mr. Jno Martin, and Mr. John Willett concerning divers goods and Tobbacco left by John Martin in the hands of Thomas Teagle (and also for 87 li, 3 s, 5d) which was afterwards sent into the Country and belonged to ye sd Thomas Martin: all which goods and Tobb were delivered to Mr. John Willet, who procured letters of Administration of ye said Jno Martins estate. For as much as it appeared that ye said Jno Martin had before his going out of this Country made a deed of guift of ye goods and Tobacco left by him in Mr. Teagles hands, and thereby given the same to Mrs. Elizabeth Douglas whom he was to marry (and who afterwards married to Mr. Willet). This Court doth order that the said Mr. Willet shall according to the said deed enjoy the same. But, the sd Mr.

> Willet is hereby also ordered to deliver up to the said Major Waters, Attorney aforesd, The sd Goods which were sent in after John Martins going out of ye Country, or the produce of them, deducting what he hath already paid out of ye same" (Minutes of the Council and General Court of Colonial Virginia).

Jamestown was connected to the mainland with a narrow isthmus at this time. The isthmus washed away during the late 18th century. In 1676, Bacon, with an inferior force, besieged Jamestown, drove out Governor Berkeley and his men, and lest the governor should retake the stronghold of Jamestown, Bacon burnt city, church, and all to the ground. A new and better church, the tower of which still remains, was built at Jamestown, yet the town never really recovered from the destruction of 1676. By the late 1600s, Middle Plantation, qr Williamsburg as it would be called, already had begun to rival Jamestown. In 1698, another fire leveled Jamestown. And this time the seat of government was moved to Middle Plantation permenantly. Perhaps a new home or two were built after the 1698 fire, but in 1722, the site comprised nothing but an "Abundance of Brick Rubbish, and 3 or 4 good inhabited Houses, tho' the Parish is of Pretty large Extent, but less than others" (The Present State of Virginia, Hugh Jones, A. M., page 25).

John Willett was an enterprising individual. He owned one of the largest plantations on the Eastern Shore; only a few men, such as the Kendall's and Scarburgh's possessed more wealth. He owned a large cattle enterprise and raised tobacco. In 16 5, he began to diversify by engaging in a partnership to construct and operate a water mill with Charles Parkes.

> "This Indenture made the thirteenth day of April. In the yeare of our Lord God, one thousand Six hundred Seventy and five. And in the twenty seventh yeare of the Reigne of our Sovereign Lord Charles the Second by the grace of God of England, Scotland, France and Ireland, King's defender of the ffaith: Betweene John Willett of Northampton County in Virginia, Merchant: of the one part, And Charles Parkes of the Same, Gunsmith, of the other part: Witnesseth that the said John Willett and Charles Parkes for divers good causes and considerations them thereunto moveing, But Especially for and in consideration of the covenants, clauses, and conditions herein and hereafter mentioned and Expressed: Have covenanted, granted, concluded, and Agreed upon: And Doe for their heirs and Assigns Covenant, grant, conclude and Agree, Each with the other to build, Erect, Compleat, and finish , or cause to be built, Erected, Compleated, and finished on the Land of him the Said Charles Parkes att ye otterdains? in the County aforesaid, One good, Substantial, and Sufficient Watermill (which is already begun) Att the proper costs and charges of them the Said John Willett and Charles Parkes, their heirs and Assigns. And they the Said John Willett and Charles Parkes Doe for them, their heirs, and Assigns, covenant, grant and Agree to and with Eachother That what costs, charges, Expenses, and trouble, hath beene and shall be had, made expended, and disbursed in and about ye Erecting, building, Compleating, and finishing the premises and all other the appurtenances whatsoever thereunto belonging or in any wise Appertaining, Shall bee Equally allowed and disbursed and Accompted for betweene them the Said John Willett and Charles

Parkes their heirs, Exers, Admrs, and Assigns; And it is further Covenanted, concluded, and Agreed upon by and betweene the parties aforesaid: And they doe for them their hiers, Exers, Admrs, and Assigns Covenant, grant, and Agree to and with Each other: That what benefits, profits, or Comodities Shall grow, Issue, Arise, and be made from the Said Mill and Appurtenances from time to time and att all times hereafter shall be Equally divided betweene them the Said John Willett and Charles Parkes their heirs, Exers, Admrs, and Assigns forever. And also that they shall bee att Equal costs, charges, and Expenses in and about the keepings, maintenance, and repairing the Said Mill and Appurtenances from time to time and att all times soe often as occasion shall require. And they Doe further Covenant, grant, and Agree for them their heirs and Assigns to and with Each other: That when it shall please God That either of them doe decease the other Shall not have or receive ant benefit thereof by virtue of Survivorship. It being the true intent and meaning of both parties. And it is soe hereby declared That the Said Mill and Appurtenances thereunto belonging with all profits and Comodities from thence arising and Accrewing Shall bee and remains Jointly in Copartnership betweene them the Said John Willett and Charles Parkes their heirs and Assigns for ever. And it is further Covenanted and Agreed upon by and between the parties aforesiad, And they doe for them, their heirs and Assigns Covenant, grant and Agree to and with Each other That if either of them their heirs or Assigns shall att any time be willing to void Alien or sell his or their moiety of the Said Mill and Appurtenances That then the other party his heirs or Assigns shall have the first refusall thereof he and they giving soe much as any other person will really and bona fide give for the Same. In witness whereof and other the promises the parties aforesaid have to these presents Interchangeably sett their hand and seal the day and yeare above written.

Signed, sealed, and delivered in ye presence of Sam:l Bennett
the mark of
Roger Graves

Jno: Willett
1675

Charles Parkes

The 30th day of May, Anno 1692
Probation in open Court made
hereto by the Oath of Roger Graves
and at the desire and Instance of Wm: Willett
ordered to be Recorded

Test: Dan Neech"
(NorCoDeeds, Wills Book XIV, pages 325-326)

On April 12, 1676, John Willett was granted a 2/3 interest in the ship "Neptune." It is unknown of what tonnage the "Neptune" drew. At a minimum, this vessel allowed John Willett to trade directly from his wharf at Old Plantation Creek to the western shore of Hampton and York. Perhaps, he engaged in some coastwise trading or even was able to trade in the West Indies and across the Atlantic Ocean.

At the time of Bacon's Rebellion, Governor Berkeley sought a haven and support on the Eastern Shore. He established his headquarters at John Custis' estate "Arlington" situated on Old Plantation Creek and adjacent to the Willett plantation. John Willett must have had some involvement and contributed support to Governor Berkeley, since he will be a representative of Virginia at an important Conference in New York Colony in 1679. This would be impossible, unless he had actively supported the Governor during this critical period. Perhaps, he had loaned Governor Berkeley his sloop during the rebellion. Berkeley drew support from the Shore and gathered a small fleet of 17 ships; and it is a matter of record that Major William Waters' sloop was employed by the Governor during the rebellion (Crowson, page 90). "It was in 1676 that Governor Berkeley showed his appreciation of the Royalist stand taken by Custis when he appointed him Major General of the King's Forces in Virginia" (Crowson, page 121). It would be only natural for Berkeley to, in a like manner, reward John Willett.

John Willett was appointed to a special commission sent by the new Governor to the Iroquois Conference called by Governor Andros of New York. John Willett, and John Eyre, with Southy Littleton and Colonel William Kendall attended as representatives from the Eastern Shore. The conference was held at Albany at the home of Robert Livingstone on the Hudson River. Willett and Eyre represented Northampton County; Littleton and Kendall represented Accomack. Southy Littleton took ill in Albany while on this mission, and realizing that death was near, wrote his will; shortly afterwards he died. Southy Littleton's will was recorded in Albany, New York, on November 12, 1679, and had been witnessed by John Willet, John Eyre, and Robert Livingstone.

Immediately after Southy Littleton's death, the Eastern Shore delegation must have returned home, because on December 30, 1679:

> "Mr. John Willett appointed a commissioner of Northampton County by Governor Henry Chicheley" (NorCoWills and Orders Book XIII, page 54).

This must have been a great honor for John Willett. At a very minimum, it would mean that John Willett had supported the Royal Government during the recent rebellion which had been led by Nathaniel Bacon and suppressed by Governor Berkeley. Governor Berkeley lived at with Captain John Custis at "Arlington" during the rebellion. Berkeley drew support from the Shore's citizens. John Willett was Custis' closest neighbor and it would only be natural to assume that he met and worked with Berkeley. The appointment would have come by boat across the Cheaspeake Bay and then been presented to him by the Court. This was a major political step in the career of John Willett. On January 5, 1679/80 Mr. John Willett was present at Court and performing his new duties (NorCoWills and Orders Book XIII, page 55).

Unfortunately, John Willett's foray into political life and his tenure as a commissioner was to be short. He was not at Court on January 28, 1679/80, or March 29, 1679/80. He may have been in his final illess at this time. It is obvious that he died sometime after March 29, 1680, and before July 28, 1680. On July 28, 1680:

> "Upon the petition of Elizabeth Willett, widow, Adm/ion is granted her on the Estate of her deceased husband, Mr. Jno. Willett. Shee enbringr (sic) into Bond wh Sufficient Security for the performance of

the Laws in Such Cases made and provided" (NorCoWills and Orders Book XIII, page 84).

On July 29, 1680, the Northampton Court noted that:

"Mr. Tho Hunt, Mr. Probost Nelson, Mr. Wm Guildon Senr and Mr. Sam'l Bennett are appointed by the Court to appraise ye Estate of Mr. John Willett, dec'd, and that the Sheriffe Summons them to meete at the house of Mrs. Elizabeth Willett on the Nineth Day of August, next, Att ten of ye Clock in ye ffore noone and perform ye Same. And that the Clerke of the Court gave his Attendance there to take an Inventory accordingly" (NorCoWills and Orders Book XIII, page 86).

The appraisers came out to the Willett plantation on the 9th day of August, 1680, as the Court had ordered and conducted their inventory:

"A True and perfect Inventory of the Estate of Mr. John Willett, decd. As the Same was apprised by us, the Subscribers by virtue of an order of Court bearing date the 29th day of July last, taken this 9th day of August, Adom, 1680.

The Said day and yeare above said, Mr. Tho: Hunt, Mr. Probost Nelson, Mr. Wm: Guildon Senr., and Mr. Samll Bennett. Sworne as ye appriser of ye above said estate.

Mr. Jno: Custis, Jnr

In the Hall

Imprimis: foure fixed fowling pieces att 240 tob	0960
Item: one old Table 90, and one old carpet 60	0150
Item: Eight old leather chairs at 25 per chair	0200
Item: two new Iron potts weighing 82 1/4	0246
Item: three old bibles, one greate one, and Two little ones	0200
Item: Eleven small old books	0100
Item: Two greate old bookes	0300
Item: One old Simeter with a broken Silver hilt	0160
Item: One Quadrant and ffore staffe	0090
Item: One greate looking glass and what belongs with it	0280
Item: Two old cushions at 20 a piece	0040
Item: One black fringed belt 120, one old carpet 25	0145
Item: Two suites of old curtains and vallence Darnes	0220
Item: 4 5/8 yds of haire camlett att	0250
Item: 8 yds of blue Tamrin	0150
Item: One old Shammy Dublet and breeches and pr of Stockins	0200
Item: Two paire of old Serge drawers and a waistcoat	0100
Item: One old Kersey coate and breeches, 1 old broadcloth coate	0500

Item: 4 old caps, 1 pr of floves, and 1 pr of stockins 0150
Item: 1 greate chest with a lock with it without a key 0200
Item: 1 old mapp of the world 0100
Item: A parcell of mathematicall Instruments and an old booke directing to ye same 0400
Item: One broken Scutchin and one whole 0010
Item: One old case with foure old rusty knives, 1 broken one 0015
Item: one piece of earthen ware and two glasses 0150
Item: one piee of small Stillyards 0040
Item: one old Cupboard and cupboard cloth and one little box 0120
Item: One Bird cage 0050
Item: one Similer with a Buff belt, silver Hilt and chain to it 0600
Item: 4 old silver Spoones, one old watch, one silver dram cup and silver crucifix 0600
Item: A parcell of old Silver Buttons 0200
Item: An Ava Maria, 3 little broken Rings, Some Stones & ponds 0150
Item: One old chest the cover splitt 0060
Item: One old close stool and panne 0040
Item: 2 old Table clothes and one old cupboard cloth and 14 old napkins all draper 0200
Item: One old calico Table cloth, one old cupboard cloth and six old napkins ditto 0070
Item: Two old ozenbrgh Table clothes and one dozen old napkins 0090
Item: One old Table cloth and 11 Napkins in comon as very old 0075
Item: One table cloth and six napkins very old likewise 0040
Item: 4 pr of canvas sheets very old and much worne 0150
Item: 2 paire of old Lockrum Pillow beers 0050
Item: 1 pr of old Luckrum sheets & one pr of old courfer sheets 0120
Item: Two paire of old flemish linnen Sheets well worne 0140
Item: 1 old pr of callico sheets & pr of pillow beers worne 0080
Item: One pr of old Holland sheets and pr of pillow beers do 0120
Item: five pr of old pillow beers 0100
Item: Eight Courfe towells 0045
Item: One paire of Courfe sheets very much worne 0060
Item: One old Hamock 0140
Item: 2 canvas Table clothes, 6 napkins Ditto old & dayly used 0050
Item: three old pr of drawers and two old white wastecoats 0070
Item: two old shirts well worne 0070
Item: A parcell of small linnen, Napkins for caps, callico neckcloths, & Handerchiefs, all very old with 1 pr of sleeves ditto 0050
Item: One old Dutch trunke with locke and key, drawer 0130
Item: One old bridle and saddle 0050

In the Parlor

Item: One paire of pistols, holsters, and old Belt at 0100
Item: One feather bed and furniture to it being a bolster 2 pillows, one Rugg and two blankets curtains vallence and one Coverlidd and bedstea d all old and well worne 1100

Item: One old feather bed and bolster, one old Red Rugg and two very old white blankets at 0700
Item: 1 small old sea bed and pillow & small cutt or plaine Rugg 0150
Item: 1 small old feather bed & 2 pillows for a little trunkle bedstead, 1 pr of old Trading cloth blankets, & 1 old plaine Rugg 0300
Item: One chest with a lock and key to it 0100
Item: One Jack bufixed and small spitt 0040
Item: Two great Iron potts and three little ones Sume crack and broken legged and very old 0260
Item: One old Iron Kettle and flesh forke 0090
Item: One old dripping pan and frying pan 0040
Item: One old warming pan very thin, one old little brass Kettle with a hole in it, one little skillett brass and one paire of old brass scales and weights 0120
Item: One small bell, mettle, mortar and pestle 0040
Item: One pr of Tinne ware and Two graters 0050
Item: One small looking glass 0020
Item: One old pr of Andirons one of them broken and Two pr of Tongs and one fire shovell and small puttracks 0150
Item: Plough chaines hookes and Staples 0050
Item: 1 Gridiron, chafendish, box Iron and heaters very old 0050
Item: 1 old round table 2 old chairs & 1 old crackt Joint Stool 0120

In the Parlor Chamber

Item: One large feather bed and bolster, two pillowes, one good red rug; and two white blankets with a Suite of Searge Curtaines and Vallance and Silke fringe and buckram Tolher? and bedstead belongings to it, all Indifferent good 2000
Item: One dozen of Joint Stooles 0180
Item: Twenty one dressed fox Skins at 15 a piece 0315
Item: A piell of old fox Skins yt formerly lined a Coate 0060
Item: One little Trunke and Two boxes 0150
Item: One little chest and one old small Spanish Table at 100 0180
Item: foure old Empty cases of bottles 0050
Item: Two dozen of Empty Quart bottles 0036
Item: One little box and six little pocket bottles 0012
Item: One small piece of wire 0012
Item: One little trunke and Two little old boxes 0030
Item: five new Grubbing hoes and one New Ax 0070
Item: Two old Sickles at 0010
Item: Two dozen trenchers 0030
Item: 80 lb of old pewter at 9 0720
Item: 16 lb of old pewter at 6 0096
Item: One dozen of trenchers more 0015
Item: One Lott of old wedges 0040
Item: thirty Quarreus? of painted glasse 0045
Item: Two old fflasketts and a little baskett 0040
Item: A parcell of old Carpenters Tools, and Severall other small Tooles, and an old crosse cutt Saw 0400

Item: 1 Small Sole leather Hide, & 5 Small halfe upper leather hides at 0160

In the Hall Chamber

Item: One old feather bed and bolster. Two pillowes and old Rugg, and Two blankets, very much worne 0800
Item: One old feather bed and Bolster, and Pillow, and old Rugg and two old blankets and bedstead 0400
Item: One chest with lock and key 0090
Item: One piece of old iron at 0140
Item: 16 yds in remnts of Trading Cloth at 35 per yd 0560
Item: One Small old copper leaded upward being old Kitche 0350

In the Milk house

Item: A parcell of old milke pans and potts and Some of them crackt and defecti ve 0040
Item: 3 old Sifters: do; five old buckets and a churne 120 0150
Item: 12 bushel of Bay Salt in casks at 30 per Bushll 0360
Item: One bushll of Alluin? Salt 0030
Item: Two washings Tubbs and Two Siftings Trays 0100
Item: A parcell of old Cyder caske as many as may containe 200 gals which want trimminge 0100
Item: An old powdringe Tub and other old casks without head 0050

Without Doores

Item: twenty Sowes, Hogges and Sholes 1000
Item: three old horses and one old mare 1600
Item: An old boate and what belongs to her 0300
Item: Six Cowes and calfes at 450 lb tob: 2700
Item: foure heiffers three yeare old next Springe at 300 each 1200
Item: 2 Steeres and a Bull of ye Same age at 250 each 0750
Item: 2 Steers, foure yeare old last Springe at 400 lb Tob ea 0800
Item: One Bull of ye Same age 0300
Item: Two old barren Cowes 0800
Item: Two yearlings at 150 each 0300
Item: One old Grindstone 0040
Item: The other halfe of ye watermill, betweene Mr. Willett and Charles Parke (the New Planke in ye Mill house loft Excepted) which declared by ye Sd Cha: Parkes to be his owne; apprized at 7500

Appendix since beginning

Item: 1 Dutch Tradinge Gunne indifferent well fixed Knowne to Some of us 0170

Item: One qu:t bottle of Linseed oyle and a Liew? of paint in two bottles and three little boxes	0040
Item: One pr of large hookes and hinges and 2 locks and keys	0050
Item: An old black box with a parcell of hooks and eys at	0010
Item: Two Hides at ye Tannehouse	0080
Item: One pr of old boots ye Topps of and an old paire of Inland Spurrs	0080
Item: One greate paper book and one little printed booke	0050
Item: Two Kanes, one headed Stick, and horse whipp with one curri-combe and spinge	0050
Item: One Alabaster Salt Seller, one old Inketurne, one Agyell? haft of a Knife with a Stumpe of blade in it	0020
Item: An old gold Twist hat band	0020
Item: A little box Tipt? with Silver, and a little Silver tooth picke case, and a parcell of leafe gold	0020
Item: An old pr of gloves and an old cap	0010
Item: 1 old little box with a Small piece of a Peake Bilt & a little loose peake	0025
Item: One parcell of brimstone about one pound	0005
Item: One old box with a parcell of old buttons	0020
Item: A parcell of old boxes	0025
Item: Two old hoes an old Spade and hatchett	0030
Item: A parcell of brushes & a pr of old Snuffers & mouse trapp	0035
Item: 1 small Liell? of mopps in a little bagg & 2 old baggs	0020
Item: 1200 severall Sorts of Nayles 10 d 8d & 6 d Nayles	0048
Sum total	39,630

All the Inventory amounting to thirty Nine thousand Six hundred and thirty pounds of tob and casks apprized by us.

Thomas Hunt
Provost Nelson
Wm Gelding, Snr
Samuell Bennett

The 28th of October, 1680, presented in open Court by ye Admx and ordered to be Recorded.

Dan Neech

Recorded ye 12 Nov 1680
(NorCoWills and Order Book XIII, pages 103-107)

This inventory tells a lot about John Willett. His house was one story without the loft or half story common to earlier houses. It was much later than the daub and wattle one room, or one room and a loft, cottages of the earlier colonial period. The amount and type

of furniture, with the much of it imported from Holland, shows that he was surrounding himself with better and more graceful furniture and costly silverware and pewter utensils. His collection of books was smaller than that of a Dr. John Holloway, Dr. George Hack, or the Reverend Thomas Teackle, but still larger than most of his contemporaries, and a definite indication that he was a learned and educated individual. Such an education would have only come from an English University. His house had a great hall which was used for a dining area and common room. Three other rooms were used primarily as bedrooms. Nothing indicates whether the house was totally built of brick or if it had the solid brick ends of most of the contemporary Eastern Shore houses. There was a milk house close to the house, and the watermill was not too far away.

John Willett must have been well educated and religious. He had 3 Bibles, and 13 other books in his house. From other inventories of this period, we can suppose that he had a pouple of world histories, a book or two on medicine (he would have been pretty much the plantation doctor), and perhaps several commentaries on religion. He also had a world map which was valued at £ 100 pounds of tobacco. It was described as old, so it was probably one of the old Dutch or English maps of the 1650s which did little but republish the information on John Smith's map of 1608. It is interesting to note the bird cage in his inventory. There are several Flemish, Dutch, and Hollander items, more than one would suppose to be in an Eastern Shore household at this time, unless the person had spent some time in Holland before immigrating to Virginia.

And then there is the pewter in quantity. William Willett of Accomack County also had a rather large quantity of pewter in his inventory of 1725. It is may be possible that John Willett came from a family of pewters. But, it must also be kept in mind that the 96 pounds of pewter may only represent what was necessary for a large and self-contained plantation at the turn of the century.

There were 20 pigs, 4 horses, and 19 cowes (a rather good amount of stock) and a Tanne House. The amount of animals in Willett's inventory seems rather small considering the size of the plantation he owned.

On September 1, 1680:

> "Commission of Adminstraion (sic) granted from Lieut Coll Wm Waters and Capt Francis Pigot to Elizabeth Willett the widow and relict of Mr. John Willett late of ye county of Northampton, dec'd, on the Estate of her Said husband. Accordinge to Act of Assembly and by vertue of an order of Court bearginge date the 28th day of July 1680" (NorCoWills and Orders Book XIII, page 90).

Also, on September 1, 1680:

> "A Bond from Elizabeth, widow, Hancock Lee Gent., and Dan'l Neech, all of ye County of North.ton, to Lieut Coll Wm Waters and Capt Francis Pigot and the rest of the wor.h Court of the Said county in the Sume of Seventy seven thousand five hundred thirty foure pounds of good Tobacco and casks. Dated the first Day of September, 1680" (NorCoWills and Orders Book XIII, page 90).

There was very little "hard" cash money in circulation at this time. A plantation owner and even his widow did their business on credit, as the following entries show. On January 31, 1680/81, the following entries appear in the Accomac Court record:

> "Whereas it appeared to the Court that there is due to Mr. Jno Luke from ye estate of Mr. John Willett, decd, the Sume of two thousand Eight hundred Eighty five pounds of tobacco and caske per bill. Itt is therefore ordered by the Court that Mrs. Elizabeth Willett, ye relict and Admx. of the Said Mr. Jno Willett, decd, make payment of the Said Sume onto ye Said Mr. John Luke out of her Said husband's estate according to priority and precedency in Law with costs of Suit at Execion.
>
> Whereas it appeared to ye Court that Mrs. Elizabeth Willett, the relict and Admx of Mr. John Willett, decd, in the time of his sickness for helpe tooke to looke after him and other service and necessaryes for him and at his funerall disbursed the Sume of Sixteen hundred Sixty foure pounds of tobacco and casks as per list is manifest. Itt is therefore ye Judgment of the Court and accordingly ordered the Said Elizabeth Willett bee allowed ye Same out of her husband's estate according to priority and precedency in Law with costs of Suite.
>
> Whereas it appeared to the Court that there is due to Dan Neech per list of Clerks ffees from ye estate of Mr. John Willett, decd, the Sume of Seventeen hundred Sixty two pounds of Tobacco and caske. Itt is therefore ordered by the Court that Mrs. Elizabeth Willett, ye relict and Admx. of the Said Mr. Jno Willett, decd, forthwith make payment thereof out of her Said husband's estate according to priority and precedency in Law with costs of Suit at Execion" (AccCoWill and Order Book XIII, pages 123-124).

On February 10, 1680/81, Elizabeth Willett filed an account of the disbursements made from her husband's estate just prior to and immediately after his death. It would be interesting to know if John Willett was buried in one of the old gable-lidded coffins such as were used at Martin's Hundred in the 1620 to 1650 period. The inventory indicates that a good deal of the medicine given John Willett in his final illness was alcohol (rum and wine). A funeral was also an event in this century. Houses were widely scattered and a funeral took on the aspect of a holiday picnic. The widow butchered a sheep, brought extra wine, butter, poultry and sugar for the guests who attended the funeral. Although it is not noted in the disbursement for John Willett's funeral, most of the guests would be given "mourning" gloves and "mourning" rings as a remembrance. This custom got to be so expensive and extravagant that the Virginia Assembly passed a resolution condemning such funeral expenses.

> "Disbursements by Elizabeth Willett for helpe and service done in the time of the Sickness of her husband and at his funeral (viz):
>
> Tob:

To: Saml Bennett for service in her husband's sickness and at his funeral	0260
To: John Webb for his like service and help at his funeral	0200
To: Margaret Tyler, ditto	0050
To: Brnyn Stratton for a Coffin	0100
To: John Stokely for Sugar in his Sickness	0084
To: Mr. Powell for a Sheepe for his ffunerall	0200
To: Jno: Daniell for Butter and poultry	0068
To: Henry Tyson for helpe in his Sickness	0120
To: Mr. Lee for wine in his Sickness and funerall	0060
To: more to him for Sugar and Rum in his Sickness	0097
To: Mr. John Eyre for Wine in his Sickness and at his funeral	0285
To: Wm Cripps for Service in his Sickness	0140
Recorded ye 10th of Feb, 1680 Sum	1664

Dan Neech"
(AccCoWill and Order Book XIII, page 133)

John Willett may have been buried on his plantation. However, Magothy Chapel was even then in existence and on his property, just about were his land adjoined that of John Custis. Today, no gravestones or vaults are in existence on the old Willett property, nor are any apparent near the location of the church.

The above entry was followed by two others showing the costs of administering and estate. These entries show that dying was not a cheap proposition, even 300 hundred years ago.

"Mrs Elizabeth Willett	Tob:
To: Coll: John Stringer	0180
To: Accompl last yeare	0290
To: ye Secretary	0040
To: Sum: foure apprisers and ye Attendance	0140
To: ye foure apprisers	0480
Mr Hancock Lee	1130

Recorded ye 10th of Feb, 1680, Dan Merch, co. North.ton"
(AccCoWill and Order Book XIII, page 134)

"Mrs. Willett as Admx to her husband Mr. Jno Willett, decd.

To: Accon pot Wm Gray (1679, May 28th)	0008
To: Acon pot and out bod John Somers	0021
To: record ye order for Addingr to ye Commission of North.ton County and order conccerning ye Same	0028
To: Copy of ye Honrable Govr order (1680, July 28th)	0020
To: pot out order and copy for Admion	0029
To: order and copy for foure apprisers	0016

To: Attendance then and Severall dayes more and taking Inventory amounting to 39,630 tob. at 1 1/2 per ct 0595
To: Bond commission of Admion and signing 0080
To: record both 0040
To: reh..e of Admion to ye said Office 0045
To: 2 copyes of said Inventory 0060
To: record Said Inventory 0030
To: drawing bond and Attendance for Coll Kendall to discharging ye and security of estate 0050
To: Lt Coll. Waters Accon.pot out & order agt Admx (Oct 28th) 0029
To: record Acct & order on former order of Govr and councell 0018
To: Mr. Watt his Accon.pot out and order agt her... 0039
To: Cha: Parkes Accon.pot and order agt her 0029
To: order to record Inventory of debts and record thereof 0038
To: record Lt Coll. Waters receipt of Coll. Kendall and discharge of order of Court agt her with his Acknowledgement in Court and record (Nov. 30th) 0040
To: Id. per Charles Parkes 0040
To: Id. per James Watt 0040
To: Inventory of 0064 Amounting to 8023 of tob. at 1 x 1/2 per cont. (Dec. 29) 0120
To: Capt. Walkers fees on order agt sd estate & discharge 0059
To: ye Admx ffees on order agt sd estate and discharge 0051
To: record discharges on Said order with Acknowledge record 0120
To: fees on .uiehis 0063

Dan: Neech 1762

Recorded ye 10th of Feb, 1680, Dan: Merch co. North.tn"
(AccCoWill and Order Book XIII, page 134)

An inventory of his estate was filed in 1680. He left a widow, a minor daughter, and one minor son. By the legal conventions of that day, his son and heir, William Willett, was considered an orphan, and would have had a guardian appointed to care and administer his estate. In William's case, the estate was considerable.

On June 17, 1681, the Northampton Court noted that:

"Judgment is this day Acknowledged in open Court by Major Wm Spencer to Mr. Jno Luke for the Sume of Two Thousand Eight Hundred Eighty five pounds of Tobacco and casks being for soe much granted to him by order of Court from ye Estate of Mr. Jno. Willett, dec'd , and...by the Said Major Spencer for ye Said Luke's Acct forthwith to bee paid by ye Sd Spencer to ye Sd Jno Luke with costs of Suite at...

Read and ord. in open Court and signed by Jno Custis
Dan Neech Jno Stringer"
(NorCoWills and Orders Book XIII, page 169).

On June 14, 1681 the Court noted:

"The Estate of my husband John Willett, dec'd:

To: Lt Coll Waters as attorney of Tho. Martin, Esqr for a money de. fordr	26869
To: Dr..o Waters for himself per order	1040
To: Charles Parkes per order	0331
To: James Watt Chysurgeon per order	1150
To: Capt Hancock Lee per order	1130
To: Dan'll Neech pd per order	1762
To: my Selfe as Admx for expense in my husbands Sickness, funerall, charges and other disbursements per order	1664
To: Wm Nicholls per order	0283
To: Major Wm Spencer for Jno Luke per order	2885
Sume	37114
By: due to him from Coll Kendall for his voyage to New York	3081
By: ye Inventory of his estate according to appraisement	32130
By: due to him from John Somers	0330
By: due to him from John Griffith	0440
By: due to him from Dan'll Neech	1032
By: Conclude of...to balance pd beyond...	0101
Sume	37114

The 14th June 1681 per Inv. Elizabeth Willett"
(NorCoWills and Orders Book XIII, page 169)

"This Acct Exhibited in open Court by Mrs. Elizabeth Willett and found just upon Examination thereof according to ye records of this Sd County of North.ton, ye Sd person to whom ye Sd order was granted having acknowledged satisfaction according thereunto which upon ye peticion (sic) of ye Sd Elis: Willett is hereby certified to all whom it may concern. Dan: March" (NorCoWills and Orders Book XIII, page 169).

"I Elizabeth Willett as Admx of my late husband John Willett, dec'd, Doe hereby acknowledge that Coll Wm Kendall pd and satisfied to me and my order Thirty Seven Thousand one hundred and fourteen pds of Tob. and casks which is due to severall persons from ye estate of my husband as witness my hand and seal this 17th day of June Dom. 1681.

Elizabeth Willett

Jno. Robins
Aryoll Yeardley

The 17th day of June, 1681

Acknowledged in open Court by the Said Elizabeth Willett as her real Act and Deed.

Test: Dan. Arraill"

(NorCoWills and Orders Book XIII, pages 169-170).

Mrs. Elizabeth (Douglas) Willett left her two minor children on the Eastern Shore when she departed for old England. She had a problem over the charges due a Mrs. John Cord for boarding and educating her daughter, Martha, for a year. It would appear that Mrs. Coard demanded an additional payment over and above that agreed upon for the boarding and education of Martha Willett. The next record, dated March 4, 1684, tells of the dispute.

"Upon the peticion of Mrs. Elizabeth Willett, widow. It is thee Judgment of the Court and accordingly Ordered that her daughter, Martha Willett, who was putt to Mary ye wife of John Cord and by a former order of this Court Enjoyned to Deliver the Said Martha to Capt Hancock Lee which the Said John Cord failed to performed, therefore that the Said John Cord and Mary his wife Deliver the Said Martha Willett to her Said mother, Mrs. Elizabeth Willett, and for what is Justly due to them they are left to their remedy at Law.

Wm Kendall"

(NorCoWills and Orders Book XV, page 47)

"The Disposition of Elizabeth Willett, Aged 28 years or thereabouts: Saith that at her departure from this country to England, I did leave my Daughter, Martha Willett, with Mary Coar for one yeare to teach her to read and sew, for which I was to pay her one Thousand pounds of Tobacco; and did tell her that if I gott my money in England, I would give her A Gratuity, But I did not make any Bargain with ye Said Coar for any longer time then one yeare for which shee had satisfaction from my father as appears by her Account. And I Doe further Say that I gave Capt Hancock Lee order to take care of my said child, and afterwards wrote to ye Said Lee from England to ye Same effort and further Saith not.

Elizabeth Willett

The 29th day of Jany 1684 Sworne
in open Court

Tes: Dan Neech"

(NorCoOrder Book XV, page 118).

This Hancock Lee was appointed High Sheriff for Northampton County in April, 1678 (Crowson, page 91). Lee immediately petitoned the court to build a suitable prison, which it did. This new prison was used from 1678 to 1690, when the Court moved to the new Courthouse. Hancock Lee married Mary Kendall, the daughter of William Kendall. The elder Kendall gave Lee a life interest in 900 acres (N43) at Cherrystone Creek which included Eyre

Hall. At Kendall's death much more land in various parts of the county were bequeathed to the Lees. In 1687, Hancock Lee and Mary moved to the county of Northumberland (Crowson, page 95).

On November 29, 1686, the Northampton Court was still referring to William Willett as an orphan (NorCoWills and Orders Book XV, page 250).

Several landmarks exist on the John Willett property. None are from the time when John Willett or even his son, William, owned the property. However, all are on the original Dale-Douglas Patent. They are the Al Wise House, Farmer's Delight (kitchen), Oak Grove (house), Cook's (land), Turkey Swamp, Edgewater (Manor) site of the old Dale Plantation and the later homes of the Douglas and Willett families, and historic Magothy Bay Church which exists as rubble beneath the ground fronting Old Plantation Creek.

Elizabeth (Douglas) Willett had returned to England in an unsuccessful attempt to claim a Douglas inheritance. She returned to Virginia sometime after 1684 and (it is believed) married Robert Leightenhouse of York County. Her daughter Martha was living with her in 1692. Robert Leightenhouse died in 1701, leaving Elizabeth a widow for the second time. For a while she ran an Ordinary at York Town. She married as her third husband, Mungo Somerville of York County, by 1702, and was widowed a third time in 1706.

1. William: b 1670 in Northampton County, Virginia; m about 1695 Ann Stringer; d 1739. See next Q.1.1.

2. Martha: b abt 1673. Martha Willett became the "daughter-in-law" of Robert Leightonhouse of York County in 1691. Martha Willett is about 18 years of age. "Father-in-law" is a term used at this period to mean the same as "step-father." Elizabeth (Douglas) Willett had returned to Virginia and (most likely had) married Robert Leightenhouse of York County.

Q.1.1
WILLIAM WILLETT and ANN STRINGER
of Old Plantation Creek, Northampton County, Virginia

William Willet was born about 1670 at the Old Dale Plantation in Northampton County, Virginia. William grew up on Old Plantation Creek, probably in the old Dale Plantation House, or perhaps his father had built a newer house overlooking Old Plantation Creek. The John Custis family lived just west of his home. The Custis estate known as "Arlington" had not been built yet, but most likely a substantial brick house was near the present Custis Cemetery, also overlooking Old Plantation Creek. When William was only six, the Royal Governor, Sir William Berkeley, had been forced by Nathaniel Bacon to flee from James City. Governor Berkeley had stayed with John Custis and young William must have been a witness to those frantic days when Bacon's fleet of seventeen ships sailed up Old Plantation Creek.

William was the only son and heir of John Willett and he succeeded, in 1680, to the title of the old Dale 3,700 acre plantation (N17). He had a sister Martha. However, he inherited everything because evidently when his father died, the court followed the English custom of primogenture which caused an estate to go in its entirety to the eldest surviving son to the exclusion of the widow, and any sisters or younger brothers. John Willett died intestate and so everything passed to his minor son William. William was considered an orphan before the Court. Any child who is in his minority is legally considered a ward of the State of Virginia.

There had been a rough chapel at the site of Hungar's Parish Church even before 1681. The ground had never been deeded to the church, and possibly the original church had burned up similar become to small to house the growing congregation. In 1681, the second Hungar's Parish Church was built near William's own home on land he owned.

His mother was accustomed to wealth. She was a Douglas and a relative of Lady Dale. About this time she had reason to believe that she was entitled to a large fortune in England. Even though her son owned over 3,200 acres, slaves, and several working plantations, and a mill, she chose to cross the ocean back to old England in pursuit of an even larger fortune. In 1684, she left for England to claim the expected fortune. William was 14; she left him in the care of Thomas Teackle, Minister of Northampton County.

On November 30, 1686, at the age of 16, he was petitioning the Court for his estate:

> "This day William Willett, orphan, petitioned this Court that they would bee pleased to take such care of his Estate as by Law in such cases are provided. To which End (hee being almost Sixteen yeares of age) The Court put him upon the choice of A Guardian: Mr. Tho: Teackle bring ye person nominated by him to ye purpose which the Court Concedes to and have accordingly appointed the Said Mr. Teackle Guardian to ye Said William Willett to take care of him, the said Willett, and his Estate and Enter into Bond to bee Responsible for so much of the said Orphan's Estate as shall come to his hands."
>
> (NorCoOrder Book XV, page 250).

The Reverend Thomas Teackle had married his grandmother, Isabella Douglas. William's mother, Elizabeth (Douglas) Willett, was most likely still in England at this date. It is also likely that since the Reverend Teackle was a learned man, he taught William to read, write, and cypher. It would also be normal for a wealthy boy of his status to be

taught Greek, Latin, Hebrew, and French. Perhaps, this was a part of the education he received while living with the Teackles.

In 1692, William Willett had recorded a 1675 Indenture between his father, John Willett, and Charles Parkes concerning the financing and construction of a mill that the elder Willett and Parkes had jointly undertaken (NorCoDeeds and Wills, pages 325-326; the Indenture is given in full under John Willett).

William Willett married prior to 1695 Ann Stringer the daughter of Hillary Stringer (d 1695/6) and granddaughter of Colonel John and Margaret (Teackle) Stringer.

On March 30, 1696, and again on May 30, 1698, William Willett gave a deed to William Baker for 600 acres of land.

> "To all Christian people to whom this present writinge or deed of sale shall come, I, William Willett, of the County of Northampton in Virginia Gent. the only son and heire of John Willett late of the said County, Gent., deceased, and Elizabeth his wife, the daughter of Capt. Edw. Douglas, late of the County, aforesaid, dec'd, the sister and heire of her brother Edward Douglas, Son of the said dec'd Capt. Edward Douglas of the place aforesaid, dec'd, send greeting in our Lord Everlasting, know you that I the said William Willett for and in consideration of the sum of 20,000 pounds of good tobacco and caskes to me in hand paid by William Baker of the County of Northampton aforesaid planter, the receipt whereof I doo surely acknowledge, and thereof and of every part and parcel thereof doo hereby Acquit, exonerate, and discharge the said William Baker, his heirs, Exc. Admr., and Assigns and every of them forever by these presents. Have given, Granted, Aleined, Bargained, sold enfeoffed, confirmed, and livery seizen and possesssion delivered And by these prsts Doo fully freely cleerly and absolutely give, grant Alien, Bargain, Sell Enfeoffed confirm liverey and seizen and possession deliver Unto the said William Baker. All that part of my tract or dividend of Woodland ground containing six hundred Acres of Land (bee the same more or less) According to and within the following bounds, Expressed (viz) Scituate lyinge and being in the county of Northampton, aforesaid and is marked and bounded about partly on the West by Old Plantation Creeke including the church or chappell neck thereon and from An Oak att the spring by the said church or chappell. Alonge the horse or foote way or path goinge by some of the plantations of and towards Capt. Nathl Littleton's By a line of trees newly marked on the Eastward side of the said Path to the northernmost line of the said Littleton's land and Running from the said old Plantation Creeke along the Northerne Brannch of the said church or chappell Neck towards the head the said Brannch till it meets with the Westernmost line of Six Hundred Acres of land which I hold by Pattent as hereafter mentioned. And soo Running along the said line of marked trees to the northernmost corner tree of Jerom Griffiths senr., his Land on Pemino Brannch or Creeke for its Northernmost Bounds and running along the said jerom Griffith's Senr his westernmost line to its Eastern bounds till it meets the northernmost line of the said Capt. Littleton's land. Finally alonge and bounding on the said Capt. Littleton's Northenr bounds to the aforesaid path and now marked line of trees as above mentioned for its Southern bounds.

Which said pr. bargained land and premises containing Six hundred Acres (more or less) according to the bounds aforesaid is part of and contained in two Patents comprised in one pattent (with other lands) of three thousand seven hundred Acres granted by Francis Moryson Esqr., Gov. etc. to Edward Douglas, son and heire and etc., to Capt. Edward Douglas in Northampton Co. etc.

Six hundred acres other part thereof formerly granted to Capt. Edward Douglas aforesaid dec'd April 26th, 1657, on the south side of the Old Plantation Creeke bounded westerly upon a Brannch of the said Creek and the Pattent land of Wm. Burdett southerly on the land of Mr. Edward Littleton; Northerly on a former divident of the said Douglas and Easterly on the lands of the Seaboard side., etc., which said last mentioned Six Hundred Acres of land of the prebargained and aforesaid premises was granted to me the said William Willett by Patent of Excy. Edmund Anders., Knt., Governor, and bearing date this 28th day of Octbr, 1697 (relacon being thereunto had) more at large and planely it doth and may appear. (Excepting out of the said prebargained premises One Acre of land whereon the aforesaid church or chappell now stands to Remaine for that use as longe as the parish are minded to continue the same).

To have and to hold the said six hundred Acres of land and etc., and etc., together with all and singular, Houses Edificers, Buildings, Orchards, Gardens, fences, which now are or shall hereafter be built Erected or Sitt upon the prebargined premises or any part or parcel thereof, timber, timber trees, woods, underwoods, waters, water courses, pastures movres, marshes, meadows, immunities, priviledges of Patents and ect., and etc.

And in Testimony and confirmation hereof I the said Wm. Willett have hereunto sett my hand and Seale the thirtieth day of May Anno Regis X Anno Dom., 1698."

There had been a rough chapel on the same spot for decades.

"Just when the new church was necessary is unknown. But it must have replaced the chapel very soon after the Upper and Lower Parishes were united into the one Hungars Parish on 12 Apr 1691. That a new church was contemplated at that period is known by the will of COL John Stringer, probated 10 Feb 1689, in which he left one thousand pounds of tobacco when the Church is built and finished for this lower parish of Northampton County, and for and towardes the purchasinge of the Lord's Prayer and tenn Commandments. To be sett up in the same" (Whitelaw, page 106).

The church has since disappeared. The only trace of its former existence is the rubble which litters the ground and subsoil near the Custis family cemetery at the former location of "Arlington."

"During the entire existence of this edifice, it usually appeared in the records as the Magothy Bay Church, although the spelling was generally Maggotty" which also indicated the colonial pronunciation of the name. "The church was a substantial one, built of brick. An inspection of the site, made a few years ago, revealed that part of the South wall, having a thickness of twenty-eight inches, was visible at the surface of the ground, but the other three walls could not even be located with a sounding rod, due to the large quantity of brick rubble in the ground, so that the church dimensions could not be determined. No description of the interior is on record" (Whitelaw, page 106).

William Willett was definitely born on the Eastern Shore. However, his father and later his guardian Hancock Lee must have given him a thorough education. It was usual at this time for the gentlemen planters to take into their houses and care the education of the sons of the gentry. This must have happened with William. In a deed dated February 12, 1703, William Willett is acting as the attorney of Mungo Somerville of York County, Virginia, in the sale of 150 acres of land for the mentioned price of 20 sheep to Henry Harmanson.

Also, in 1703, William Willett was added to the Northampton County commissioners, along with his father-in-law, Hillary Stringer, John Luke, Benjamin Nottingham, and Jno Harmanson. Perhaps the burdens of public life required William to borrow money; or perhaps the tobacco market became depressed. William Willett was always use to live the life of a gentleman. From all the sales and the acknowledgements of indebtness, perhaps he simple expended much more income than his estate, great as it was, brought in. At any rate William began to clear title to some adjoining land which was owned by the Custis family, to sell off a considerable portion of his land, and to acknowledge a large indebtness. On March 10, 1704/05 William Willett acknowledged the sale of 300 acres of land for 9,000 pounds of tobacco:

"To All Christian People to Whom This present Deed of Sale shall Come: I Wm: Willett of ye county of Northampton in Virginia, Gent. The only son and heir of Jno: Willett Late of ye sd. county, Dec'd, Gent., and Elizabeth his wife, The daughter of Capt. Edwd: Douglas, Late of ye county aforesaid, deceased, and sister And heir of her Brother Edward Douglas, son of ye said Dec'd Capt. Edwd: Douglas, Likewise of ye Place, aforesaid, dec'd: send greeting in our Lord God Everlasting. Know you: That I ye sd. Wm: Willett for and inconsideration of ye summ of Nine Thousand pounds of good Tobacco, in cash to me in hand pd: and security To be paid by James Wilson, of ye county of Northampton Aforesaid, Planter, ye Receipt Where of I do hereby acknowledge, and Th...of, and of every part and...Thereof do hereby acquit, exhonerate, and discharge ye sd. James Wilson, his heirs, Exers, Admrs, and assigns and every of you forever, by These presents have given granted Aliened and Bargained, Sold, infeefed, confirmed and delivered, and by These presents do fully Truely...And, Absolutely give grant, alien, bargain, Sell Infeefe, and confirm unto Thee, sd. James Wilson Three Hundred Acres of Land be ye Same more of Less, is part of a divident of Land Containing Two Thousand Acres Granted, by Patent, to Edwd: ...Bearing date The 11th day of April, 1649; being Comprised in A Nother Patten of

a great Quantity of Land, as in and by The Same may more fully And att large appear; And is boundeth as follows: Viz: Situate, Lying and being in Northampton County, abovesaid: Northly upon Two Hundred and fifty acres of Land sold by mee to Mr. John Bowdin which also is part of Abovesd Two Thousand Acres; Westerly upon ye Land of old Plantation Creek; Southerly upon Three Hundred Acres of Land Sold formerly to Coll: Jno: Custis which was held by ... Whitman Ck being other part of ye sd Two Thousand Acres and Easterly on ye Lands, at The sea board side.

To have and to hold: These Three Hundred Acres of Land more or less with all and Singular Rights...and appurtenances and of Together With all houses, Edifices, buildings, Orchards, Gardens, Fences, Feedings, pastures, Woods, Ways, Waters, Watercourses, profits, Comodities, Priviledges, Emolluments, and Advantages. Whatsoever which now and or hereafter Shall Be...To The sd. Three hundred Acres of Land, More or Less, Erected...belonging or in any wise Appertaining, unto ye sd. James Wilson, his heirs, Exers, Admrs, and Assigns, from ye day of The Date of These Presents, forever, and The Said Wm: Willett for him self, heirs, Exers, and Admrs. The Said Three hundred Acres of Land More or Less with the premises thereunto Belonging unto The Sd. James Wilson his heirs, and Assigns Against him oor Them and all manner of persons or persons Whatsoever claiming, or To claime from by or under him or you upon A pretence Whatsoever, Shall Warrant and forever defend, The Rents and services which now and or hereafter shall grow, due and payable, to our Sovereign Lady, The queen, her heirs or successors for or in respect of ye promises. Always excepted and foreprised, and The sd Wm: Willett, doth for him and his heirs Exers, Admrs, covenants, promise, and grant To and with ye sd. James Willson, his heirs and assigns That ye said forebargained, promises, and every part And...Thereof is a clear free, acquited, Ex...and discharged from all former saled, contracts, Bargains, and all manner of Mortgagaes... Recognizances, Judgments, conveyances, dowers, joynts, Titles, Troubles, and incumbrances, Whatsoever, and before ... hereof, behalf, good right, Title, and Interest: To ye premises and to Alien, Sell, dispose: of and confirm The Same in Manner and form aforesaid unto ye sd James Wilson, His heirs and assigns. In Witness Whereof and at...The Premises; I have here unto sett my Hand and Seal The Tenth day of March Anno Dom: 1704/05.

Wm: Willett
ye Seal

Signed, Sealed and Delivered
Jno: Bowdoin
Nathl: Cable

March ye 2th, 1705"
AccCoDeed and Will Book XVI, pages 385-386)

Ann Willett, William's wife, also relinguished her rights in open Court on the 10th day of March, 1704/05 (AccCoDeed and Will Book XVI, page 387). This land was south of land sold to John Bowdoin on the same date, and extended along the seaside road to Dun

Branch. James Wilson died in 1720 and this land passed to his sons, James, Thomas, and William (Whitelaw, page 101).

Even after the above sale, William Willett was still indebted to James Wilson for 9,000 pounds of good Virginia tobacco.

> "Know all Men. By These presents that I Wm: Willett of Northampton County in Virginia, Gent. do acknowledge To owe and Stand justly indebted unto James Wilson of ye place and county aforesaid, his heirs, Exers, Admrs, or assigns ye full and just sum of Eighteen Thousand pounds of good sound Virginia Leaf Tobacco with sufficient cask to contain ye Same. To be pd conveniently and to content upon all demands for which payment will and Truly to be made, I binde myself, my heirs, Exers, and Admrs, firmly by These presents: Sealed with my Seal: and dated The Tenth day of March Anno Dom: 1704/05.
>
> (AccCoDeed and Will Book XVI, page 388)

No explanations are in the Northampton Court record as to why William Willett had become so indebted to James Wilson for the 18,000 pounds of tobacco.

Also, on March 10, 1704/05, William Willett sold to John Bowdoin the title to 250 acres which was also part of the two thousand acre patent to Edward Shrimpson bearing date 11th day of 1649 for the sum of 9,000 pounds of Tobacco (AccCoDeed and Will Book VI, page 389). Ann Willett relinguished her rights to the 250 acres. William Willett also acknowledged a debt to John Bowdoin for 18,000 pounds of good Virginia Tobacco and bonded himself and his heirs to pay that sum.

Thus, even after William Willett sold 550 acres of his original inheritance he was still indebted for 27,000 pounds of tobacco and casks. There was some question about the Custis family's land at "Arlington" and that of William Willett where their land adjoined each other. To resolve any legal question which might otherwise cloud a clear title to the Custis property, William and Anne Willett gave a quit claim in 1704:

> "William and Anne Willett gave a quit claim deed to John Custis III for the land John Custis II, deceased, did possess and enjoy, and twelve years later (1714) Colonel Custis III left to his son, John IV, Arlington House with 250 acres thereto belonging which I bought of Mr. Wm. Willett and have patented for in my own name. This would mean that at least some of the Custis land must have been claimed by Willett as a part of the early grant to Dale" (Whitelaw, page 107).

Actually, as has been earlier discussed, William Willett had title to nearly all of the Dale patent.

> "This Indenture made This fourteenth Day of December, In ye fifth yeare of ye Reigne of our Sovereign Lord George, by the Grace of God of Great Britain, France, and Ireland, King Defender of ye Faith and: In ye yeare of our Lord one Thousand Seven Hundred and nineteen. Between we, Jerom Griffith, Thomas Moore, and Jonas Griffith of North-

ampton County, Virginia, Planters, of ye one part, and William Willett, Senr of ye County aforesd, Gentleman,of ye other part. Witnesseth: we ye sd Jerom Griffith, Tho: Moore, and Jonas Griffith for Divers good Considerations Them thereunto moveing but more Especially for and in Consideration of five hundred pounds of tobacco, to Jerom Griffith, In hand paid and Secured to be paid and to Tho: Moore and Jonas Griffith to be paid by Mr. Wm: Willett to Tho: Mooore Ten barrel of good Indian Corne, and to Jonas Griffith Six hundred pound of Tobacco to be paid in ye yeare one Thousand Seven hundred and twenty by ye Said Mr. William Willett Senr, hath alienated, bargained, Sould, remissed, Released, and Confirmed and for ever Quit Claimed and by these presents for them Selves and their heirs Doth fully clearly and absolutely remise, release, confirme, and for ever Quit Claime unto ye sd William Willett Senr in full and peaceful possession of Livery and Seizen by turfe and Twigg and to his heirs and Assigns for Ever all such right Estate Title, and Demand, whatsoever we ye sd Jerom Griffith, Thomas Moore, and Jonas Griffith, have or ought to have of in or to one halfe acre of Land and water mill with all preises and Appurtenances thereunto Belonging or in any wise Appurtaining; Situate Lying and being on ye Sae board Side upon ye South Side of Pimino branch being part of that parcell of Land I bought of my father Jerom Griffith, Decd, In Northampton County, Virginia, with all waters and water courses, profits, priviledges, and Comodities what soe ever thereunto belonging as wee ye Sd Jerom Griffith, Tho: Moore, and Jonas Griffith now possess it, unto him the Sd William Willett, Senr and his heirs and Assigns for ever. Soe yet neither wee ye Sd Jerom Griffith, Tho: Moore, and Jonas Griffith, nor our heirs, nor any person or persons, for us or in our or their names or in the name of us Aske any Right, Title, or Interest but the only use and behalfe of him ye Sd William Willett, Senr, and his heirs for Ever. Soe that not in the Stead of Us or any of them Shall or will by any means hereafter, Ask, have, Claime, Challenge, or Demand any Estate, Right, or Interest of In or to the premises or any part or parcell of ye above mentioned halfe acre of Land and Watermill, and all premises and Appurtenances thereunto belonging; Wee and Every of us to be utterly Excluded and for Ever Declared by these presents in Confirmation and Testimony whereof with all Other ye promises herein contained ye Sd Jerom Griffith, Tho: Moore, and Jonas Griffith hath hereunto Sett our hand and affixed our Seales ye Day and yeare above written.

Signed Sealed in Presents of Us
George Tompson (mark)
William Willett, Junr
Nicholas Bootin (mark)

Jerom Griffith (mark)
Jonas Griffith (mark)
Thomas Moor

The Sd Wm: Willett Doth promise to Keep a publick road to ye Sd Watermill upon his one Land"
(NorCoDeeds and Wills Book XXIII-R, page 51)

On October 13, 1711, William Willett and his wife Anne witnessed the will of John Stockley of Northampton County (NoCoWills, Book No. 16).

There were three Willett-Goffigon marriages about 1720. Some time before March 5, 1720, William's son, William Willett, married Rose Goffigon. Although the order of the marriages is uncertain, William's sisters, Elizabeth and Mary, married Thomas and James Gossigon. The marriages of three Willett's to three Goffigon's must have given the Shore folk a topic for discussion for many a year.

Ann Willett wrote her will on March 18, 1721/2. It was proved on July 10, 1722.

William Willett's youngest son, William Willett, Junior, wrote his will on December 13m 1725. His father and mother witnessed the will for him. He died within a month; his will was proved on January 11, 1725 (1726).

William Willett's eldest son, Hillary Willett, wrote his will on April 16, 1735. Hillary died within the month.

William Willett's will is dated October 18, 1739 and was proved March 11, 1740. His property was inventoried on April 5, 1740. William left an estate of 2,000 acres and several slaves to his children and grandchildren.

"In the name of God Amen. I William Willet of the County of Northampton in Virginia, being Sick and Weak but of perfect sense and memory, not knowing how soon it may please God to take me out of this World, I do make and ordain this to be my last Will and Testament in manner and form following:

first and principally: I bequeath my Soul into the hands of Almighty God who gave it me and my Body to be decently buried at the discretion of my Executors hereafter named and for what worldly Estate it hath pleased Almighty God to bestow upon me I give, Will and bequeath as followeth Viz:

Item: I give and bequeath unto my Daughter Elizabeth Goffigon and her Heirs forever my Plantation whereon I now live containing four hundred and fifty acres of Land be the same more or less, bounded Westerly upon Old Plantation Creek, Southerly upon the Land I sold to William Baker, Northerly upon my North bounds of my Eleven hundred Acres of Land, Easterly on a line of marked trees upon the Eastern side of a place called the White Marsh Swamp, the said line running from near the head of Pimmino branch to the North bound of my Eleven hundred Acres of Land;

and I also give unto my daughter Eliz. Goffigon my Negro Woman called Rose, my Negro Girl called Rachael, and their future increase forever;

I likewise give my daughter Elizabeth and her Heirs the Liberty of keeping eight head of cattle in my Grandson Hillary Willet Marsh till he comes of the age of one and twenty.

Item: I give and bequeath to my grandson Thomas Willet the Plantation whereon James Stokely now liveth containing four hundred Acres of Land more or less, bounded Easterly upon the Seaboard coast, Southerly upon Mill point branch from the head of Mill point branch along a line of marked trees to the head of a small Valley and to the North bounds of my Eleven hundred Acres of Land bounded Westerly by a line of marked trees running from my North bound of Eleven hundred Acres of Land, and the Plantation where Thomas Clay now liveth to a White Oak on the South bounds of Thomas Benthall's Land near the Head of Stokely's Land to him my said grandson Thomas Willet and the heirs lawfully

begotten of his Body forever and for want of such Heirs to my two Daughters Leah Goffigon and Ann Hunt and their Heirs forever.

I also give my said grandson Thomas Willet one Negro Boy called Cesar and one of my Guns and all my wearing Apparel, pistols, and Holsters and Hand Mill to him and his Heirs forever.

Item: I give unto my granddaughter Mary Willet one Mullato Girl called Dinah with her increase to her and her heirs forever.

Item: I give and bequeath unto my three grandsons William Willet, Hillary Willet, and Douglas Willet six hundred and fifty Acres of Land be the same more or less bounded Easterly on the Seaboard side, Northerly upon Andrew's Creek and from the Head of the said Creek the North bound of my Eleven hundred Acres of Land to the Seaside County Road, then on my Grandson Thomas Willet, then on my said North bound of Eleven hundred Acres to the Easterly bound of my Daughter Elizabeth Goffigon's marked by myself, Southerly on Pimmino branch;

my Will is that my Grandson William Willet shall have the South part the Plantation where his father Hillary Willet lived running from Thickely Gut Westerly to my Daughter Elizabeth Goffigon, Easterly bounds for his part; and my Grandson Hillary to have the next Southward part being the Plantation where Hambleton now lives bounding on his Brother William and on the Seaboard side to Andrews Creek and from the Head of the said Creek along my neck fence to my ... Northward the main County Road and from the said Road to my Daughter Elizabeth Goffigon's Eastern bound for his part; and my Grandson Douglas Willet to have the Plantation where Thomas Clay now lives bounding the main County Road and Land of Thomas Willet and along my North line of Eleven hundred Acres to my hundred and fifty Acres of Land to my three Grandsons and their Heirs of their Body's Lawfully begotten forever to be equally divided and for want of such Heirs to the Heirs of the Bodys of the Survivors or Survivors and in case my three said grandsons should died without issue as aforesaid, then I bequeath the said Land to my daughter Elizabeth Goffigon and her Heirs forever;

Item: I give and bequeath to my two Granddaughters Mary and Elisha Hunt One hundred and fifty Acres of Land be the same more or less to them and their Heirs lawfully begotten of their Body's forever and if both of my said Granddaughters should die without issue of their body's as aforesaid then I bequeath the said Land to my two Daughters Elizabeth and Leah Goffigon to be equally divided between them to them and their Heirs Lawfully begotten for ever the said Land is bounded Southerly on the Land given to Elizabeth Goffigon, Easterly upon the Land of Thomas Willet, Westerly on the Land of John, William and Azariah Hunt, and Northerly by a line of marked trees running from the Land of Azariah Hunt to the Land of Thomas Willet on the Southside of the Plantation whereon Charles Thomson lived.

Item: I give and bequeath to my daughter Leah Goffigon One hundred and twenty five Acres of Land be the same more or less to her and her Heirs forever, bounded Southerly on the Land given to Mary and Elisha Hunt, Easterly on the Land of Thomas Willet, Westerly on the Land of Azariah Hunt, and Northerly by a line of marked trees running from the said Hunt Land to the Land of Thomas Willet.

I also give to my said Daughter Leah Goffigon a Negro Woman Pegg, and one Negro Boy called John, and one Negro Boy called James, with all their increase to her and her Heirs forever.

Item: I give and bequeath unto my Daughter Ann Hunt One hundred and twenty five Acres of Land be the same more or less bounded Southerly on the Land given my Daughter Leah, Easterly upon the Land of Thomas Willet, Westerly on the Land of Azariah Hunt, Northerly on the Land of Thomas Benthall, to her and her Heirs forever; I likewise give my Daughter Anne one Negro Girl called Esther and her increase, one Negro Boy called Solomon, to her and her Heirs forever.

Item: I give to my Granddaughter's Mary and Elisha Hunt one Negro girl called Elisha with all her Increase to them and their heirs forever.

Item: I give unto my Daughter Leah Goffigon and her Heirs for ever the Plantation whereon James Spady now lives conatining two hundred Acres of Land be the same more or less bounded Easterly upon the Seaboard side, Northerly on Mill point branch and to the Head of the said Branch along a line of marked trees to a small valley and from the Head of the said Valley to the County Road, Westerly on the said, Southerly upon Andrews Creek and from the Head of the said Creek along my neck fence til it comes to my Northern line of Eleven hundred Acres of Land along that line to the said County Road which is her Western bounds.

Item: I give unto my two Granddaughters Isabel and Mary Senior one Negro Girl called Nanny with all her increase to be equally Divided to them and their Heirs forever. I likewise give to my Granddaughters Isabel and Mary Senior three young female Sheep a piece.

Item: I give and bequeath unto my Granddaughter Isabel Senior one bed and bolster, Rugg, blanket, and one two year old Heifer to her and her Heirs forever.

Item: My Will is that my Daughter-in-Law Frances Gelding shall have the have the benefit of the Land given to her children till they come to lawfull age or day of Marriage if she will learn them to Read, Write and Cypher, but in case she will not learn them, I leave the Land to the care of my Executor to let it out to the best advantage of the Children's Schooling.

Item: I give all the rest of my Estate be it in what nature or quality soever after my just Debts and funeral charges paid, be equally divided between my three Daughters to wit: Elizabeth and Leah Goffigons, and Ann Hunt, and their Heirs forever.

Item: my Will and desire is that my Estate be not appraised.

Lastly: I nominate, Constitute and appoint my three Sons-in-Law, Thomas and James Goffigon, and Thomas Hunt my whole and Sole Executors of this my last Will and Testament in testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and Seal this eighteenth day of October Seventeen hundred thirty five.

William Willet

Signed Sealed and delivered in the presence of
Testes: Hillary Hunt, Bej. Johnson, Daniel Benthall

At a Court held for Northampton County on Tuesday the Eleventh day of March, 1739. The last Will and Testament of William Willet, Gent., deceased, was presented in Court by Thomas and James Goffigon and Thomas hunt who made Oath thereto and being proved by the Oaths of Hillary Hunt, Benjamin Johnson, Daniel Benthall, the witnesses thereto it is admitted to Record and upon the motion of the said Executors and their performing what is usual in such Cases Certificate is granted them for Obtaining a Probate thereof in due form.

Teste: Thos: Cable"

(NoCoWills, Volume 18, pages 335-336)

1. Elizabeth: b abt 1690; m 1st abt 1715 Thomas Gossigan (Goffigan; d 1735). She was widowed in 1739 when she inherited the home plantation and 450 acres which included the Neck on Old Plantation Creek. In 1753, she deeded 100 acres to daughter Mary, wife of William Guy, and the balance to her son, John Goffigon. Elizabeth (Willett) Goffigon then married as her 2d husband, John Benthall. She wrote her will on June 14, 1788, and died before April 15, 1789.

    1. Mary Goffigon: b abt 1717; m William Guy.

    2. John Goffigon: b abt 1720.

2. Ann: b abt 1692; m abt 1715 Thomas Hunt; she received 125 acres in 1739 from her father's estate. She wrote her will on November 10, 1758; deeded to her son Azariah. Her property has an old Quarter Kitchen still in existence on a tract called "Farmer's Delight."

    1. Azariah Hunt: b abt 1717.

    2. Mary Hunt: b abt 1720.

    3. Elisha Hunt: b abt 1722.

3. Leah: b abt 1694; m James Gossigan; was willed 125 and 200 acres in 1739; this property eventually went to her son, Southy Gossigon in 1762.

4. Hillary: b abt 1696 in Northampton County, Virginia; m abt 1720 Francis Gelding; d 1735 thus predeceasing his father by 4 years. See next Q.1.1.4.

5. William: b abt 1698 in Northampton County, Virginia; m before March 5, 1720, Rose Goffigon; will dated December 13, 1725; proved January 11, 1726, thus predeceasing his father by 14 years. See next Q.1.1.5.

Q.1.1.4

HILLARY WILLETT and FRANCIS GELDING of Northampton County, Virginia

Hillary Willett was born about 1696 in Northampton County, Virginia. He was raised on the old Dale Plantation. His education must have been neglected, because in 1735 he signed his will with a mark.

The "new" brick Magothy Church was just west of the Willett plantation, and he must have attended Sunday services there.

About 1720, he married Francis Gelding. His father most likely gave him several hundred acres to manage as a plantation, and perhaps included several slaves. Hillary Willett died in 1735, thus predeceasing his father by 4 years. At this time he owned no property in his own name.

> "In the name of God Amen. I Hillary Willet of Northampton County being very sick and weak but in sense and memory but not knowing how soon it may please God to take me out of this world, Do make this my last Will and Testament in manner and form following:
>
> First: I bequeath my Soul to Almighty God who gave it me and my body to the earth from whence it came;
>
> Item: I give to my son William Willet one bed and bolster, Virginia tick with blanket, Sheet and bedstead, and I give him my Negro, Lite;
>
> Item: I give to my son Hillary Willet my bed at mother's with bolster, sheet and Rug, bedstead and blanket;
>
> Item: I give to my son Douglas Willet one ... (next two lines missing);
>
> Item: ... during her widowhood;
>
> Item: My Will is that all the rest of my estate to be equally Divided between my wife, Frances Willet, and my three sons, William Willet, Douglas Willet, and Hillary Willet. And I do make and ordain my loving wife, Frances Willet, executor of tis my las will and Testament ... 16 April, 1735.
>
> wit: William Willet — Hillary Willet (mark)
> William Griffeth
>
> Probate: 10 June, 1735"
> (NorCoWill Book 18, 1733-1740, pages 102-103)

From the division of his estate, Hillary Willett, must have lived in a house belonging to his father. Hillary had livestock, cows, sheeps, pigs, and horses, but no personal household goods. He leaves no plantation or house or a large quantity of furniture which would have belonged to him if he owned his own home.

> "The Division of the Estate of Hillary Willet, dec'd
>
> Hillary Willet's part
>
> 1 Cow and Calf, 2 Sheep, 2 Sows, 1 Barrow, 1 Pigg, 1 hand Mill, 1 large pewter dish, 1 spoon, 1 earthen plate, 1 earthen cup, 1 chest,

lock and key, 2 reap hooks, 1 linnen Wheel, 2 bottles, 2 white earthen plates, 1 napkin, 1 ax;

Douglas Willet's part

1 Cow, 1 yearling Steer, 1 Sheep, 1 Colt, 1 gun, 1 barrow, 1 Sow, 5 pigs, 2 pewter plates, 1 pint pot pewter, 6 spoons, 1 earthen plate, 1 Cup, 1 Smoothing Iron, 1 frying pan, 2 bottles, 2 white plates, 1 napkin, 7 of? Leathers;

William Willet's part

1 Cow and Calf, 1 horse, 1 small pewter dish, 6 spoons, one earthen plate, 1 Cup, 1 Chest, 1 Weavers Slay, 1 ten gallon Cask, 2 tin pans, 1 earthen pan, 2 bottles, 1 white plate, one white porringer, 1 napkin, 10 of wool, one silver belt buckle, 1 Ewe;

Frances Willet's part

1 Cow and Calf and heifer, 1 Sow, 1 barrow and 5 piggs, 4 old pewter plates, 6 spoons, 1 earthen plate, 1 Cup, 1 Chest, 1 Slay and harness, 2 earthen pans, 1 tin pan, 1 small cooking glass, 2 bottles, 1 white plate, 1 porringer, 1 napkin, the remainder of the estate; a parcel of Lumber.

Divided by us Wm Willet, Francis Stokeley

Frances Willet Executrix (mark) James R. Spady (mark)

12 August, 1735, the above division was Recorded"
(pages 107-108)

1. Mary: b abt 1722; died young. Not mentioned in her father's will of 1735.

2. William: b abt 1725; m abt 1750 Mary; inherited from his grandfather (1739) 150 acres of land on the north side of Peminoe Creek. In 1752, he sold 150 acres to John Widgeon.

3. Hillary: b abt 1727; inherited from his grandfather (1739) 155 acres on the north side of Peminoe Creek. He sold this prior to 1754, evidently to John Stratton.

4. Douglas: b abt 1730; inherited from his grandfather (1739) 155 acres; m in 1760 Henrietta Johnson. He sold land in 1762 and 1782; died 1782. See next Q.1.4.4.

Q.1.1.4.4

DOUGLAS WILLETT of Northampton County, Virginia

Douglas Willett was born about 1730 on his grandfather's plantation. In 1739, Douglas Willett inherited, from his grandfather William Willett, 155 acres. His grandfather also included a very strong clause in his will which required that Douglas receive a good education in reading, writing, and cyphering.

In 1760, Douglas married Henrietta Johnson, the daughter of John Johnson. Evidently he sold the acreage he had inherited in two sales: in 1762 to James Gossigon, 30 acres; in 1766 to John Wilkins, 111 acres. Henrietta probably died about 1765.

At some date between 1766 and October 8, 1771, Douglas Willett married Elizabeth Dixon, the widow of Michael Dixon, Jr. (NorthamptonCoWill Book, 24, pages 71, and 413). The 1771 division of Michael Dixon's estate is given below. Several of the slaves purchased by Douglas Willett at this sale remain in the Willett family for many years.

> October 8, 1771: Extract of the "Division of Estate of Michael Dixon Sr and Jun:
>
> Douglas Willett Junr. part of the estate of Michael Dixon Junior, deceased; the 1/7 of the Appraised value of the moveables £ 4. 19. 11.
>
> Douglas Willett Senr and Elizabeth his wife, part of the estate of Michael Dixon Senr;
>
> | | |
> |---|---|
> | The 1/3 part of the Slaves | (not valued) |
> | The 1/3 part of the Real personal estate | 104. 18. 4 3/4 |
> | The 1/7 part of the personal estate of Michael Dixon Jr | 4. 19.11 |
> | | 109. 18. 4 3/4 |
>
> Douglas Willett bought the Slaves of Michael Dixon Sr Estate:
>
> | | | |
> |---|---|---|
> | one negro fellow | Peter | 36. 5. 0 |
> | | Worcester | 66. 5. 0 |
> | | boy James | 36. 5. 0 |
> | | girl Lucy | 36.10. 0" |
>
> (Northampton County Will Book 24, page 413)

On January 20, 1764, Douglas Willett gave his consent as to Esther Moor (William and Mary Quarterly, 2d series, page 503). This was probably a consent to be married.

It is just possible that he was an ardent Tory during the Revolutionary War. At least, that is one proposition that can be made from the following facts.

> "At a Court of Admiralty held in the city of Williamsburg, the 9th day of October, 1777: Jacob, Robert, and Ned, negro men slaves who were taken on board the armed boat Dreadnought, being together with the said boat, libelled in this court at the suit of the said James and Richard Barron, and no person appearing to claim either of the said slaves, it is ordered that publik notice be thrice given in the Virginia

Gazette, that unless any person claiming a property in either of them shall appear and prosecute the same on or before the twenty eight day of this instant, the court will proceed according to law.

Jacob says he belongs to Hancock Jacob, Robert to Arthur Upshaw, and Ned to Douglas Willett, all of Northampton County" (VaGaz, no. 141, October 10, 1777).

"To be sold for read money, at Hampton, on Monday the 20th of this instant (October) by decree of the Hon. Court of the Admiralty.

The armed boat Dreadnought, together with her guns, rigging, tackle, apparel, and furniture, lately taken by Captains James and Richard Barron. Also, on Monday the 27th instant will be sold, in the city of Williamsburg, four very likely Negro Men, taken in the said boat, and sold by decree of the said Court. An inventory of the guns, rigging, etc., may be seen by applying to either of the Captains Barrons, or the subscriber in this city.

Ben: Towell, Marshal" (VaGaz, no. 141, October 10, 1777).

The negro slaves never did get to the lead mines; instead they escaped from their guard.

"Williamsburg, October 24, 1777: Robin, Ned, and Aberdeen, three negroes who were sent up to the lead mines, got away from their guard last Sunday night, at Richmond. Whoever delivers them to COL James Gallaway, Mr. Innis at the lead mines, or to the subscriber, shall have Five Pounds for each, and the same reward if secured in any jail, upon notice given. Robin belongs to Mr. Upshaw of Accomack, Ned to Douglas Willet, and Aberdeen to John Crammond.

David Mason, Colonel 11th Virg. reg." (VaGaz, no. 143, October 24, 1777).

At a Council of the State of Virginia held November 5, 1777, it was ordered that:

"Also a Warrant for One hundred and fifty pounds payable to Benjamin Powell for the purchase of Robin a Slave late the property of Arthur Upshaw,

And one hundred and thirty pounds for Ned late the property of Douglas Willet: the above Slaves were taken from the Enemy and ordered by a Decree of the Court of Admiralty to be sold, and bought for the Lead Mines by this Board" (Journal of the Council of the State of Virginia, volume II, page 22).

It is not known if Douglas Willett ever recovered his slave Ned. The Battle at Yorktown turned the British Loyalist world upside down. After the war, it was a good time to be an American, it was not altogether a good time to be a former Loyalist or British sympathizer. One of the big issues of the day was whether or not the former colonials

should have to repay the prewar debts that they owed to British creditors or to the former Loyalists. The Treaty of Paris only recommended that debts be paid. Leading Virginians opposed repayment. Patrick Henry and George Mason were against repayment. Anti-British feeling ran so high that in 1782 the Virginia State Legislature passed a law declaring that no debt due a British merchant could be collected in a state court. British merchants who became Virginia citizens were denied the right to collect their prewar debts; Loyalists were also excluded. Eventually, wartime resentments cooled and times returned to normal. Not all debts were repaid, and even when courts and the legislature permitted restitution not all debts were repaid in full.

An interesting item (that does not have a definite date, but occurred between 1775-1803, probably about 1781, but this entry could possibly belong to his son, Douglas) is that Robert Trower was the executor for Douglas Willett, and he (Trower) stated that he had fully settled all of Douglas Willett's accounts with Atchinson, Hay and Company (British Mercantile Claims 1775-1803, page 126; page 38 in the original).

Douglas Willett died in 1781. His estate was inventoried. It is interesting to note that he had eight slaves, of which three (Peter, James and Lucy) he had purchased from the estate of Michael Dixon, Sr., in 1771. Also the riding chair seems a strange item to our modern ears.

"An Inventory of the Estate of Douglas Willet, dec'd, this 8th day of March, 1781:

To: 1 Bed and Furniture £ 450.	£	450. 0. 0
To: 1 Bed, bedstead mat and Cord £ 200		650. 0. 0
To: 1 Bed & Bolster £ 200. 1 Rug, Bedquilt & sheet £ 200		400. 0. 0
To: 1 Bed & Bolster £ 200. 1 Blanket & 2 Sheets £ 60.		260. 0. 0
To: 1 Bed & Bolster £ 220. 1 Bedstead, mat & Cord. £ 35		255. 0. 0
To: 1 Bedstead, mat & Cord £ 30. 1 Blanket, Hammock, & Sheet £ 60		90. 0. 0
To: 3 Gin Cases £ 75. 1 Corner Cupboard £ 120.		195. 0. 0
To: 1 Large Bottle, 7 Cups & Saucers £ 30. stand & Canister £ 15.		45. 0. 0
To: 4 Pieces of Queens China £ 15. 7 Earthen Plates £ 9		24. 0. 0
To: 2 Patte pans £ 30. 2 large Glass tumblers £ 20.		50. 0. 0
To: 1 Clothes Press £ 250. 1 Desk £ 150. 1 Table £ 75.		475. 0. 0
To: 1 Looking Glass £ 30. 1 Chest £ 20. 3 Linen Wheels £ 100.		150. 0. 0
To: 8 Flag'd Chairs £ 70. 1 Chest & Table £ 15.		85. 0. 0
To: 1 Cann & Candle box £ 15. To: 2 Hand Guns £ 100.		115. 0. 0
To: 1 Pair of Fire Dogs £ 60. 6 Pewter plates £ 60.		120. 0. 0
To: 1 Pewter Dish £ 60. To 1 Man's Saddle £ 100. 1 Horse £ 1000.		1160. 0. 0
To: 5 Horses £ 2350. To: 1 Yoke of Stears £ 750.		3150. 0. 0
To: 170 Barrels of Corn at £ 25 per barrel.		4250. 0. 0
To: 1 Riding Chair £ 1000. 1 Boat & Sails £ 500.		1500. 0. 0
To: 1 Wain & Wheels £ 200. To: 4 Ploughs £ 80.		280. 0. 0
To: 1 Hand Mill £ 150. To: 2 Axes £ 50. to large Kettle £ 75.		275. 0. 0
To: 2 Iron pots £ 30. to 5 hoes £ 60. to 1 small Kettle £ 15		105. 0. 0

To: 2 old Negroes £ 1500. to 2 wenches, Pleasant, & China £ 4000.	5500. 0. 0
To: 2 young Negroes James & Dinah	4000. 0. 0
To: 1 Boy Peter £ 800. to 1 Negro girl Lucy £ 2500.	3300. 0. 0
To: 9 head of Cattle £ 1450. to 16 large hogs & 12 pigs £ 1100.	2550. 0. 0
To: 7 Stacks of oats £ 1734. to 600 lbs of bacon £ 1800.	3534. 0. 0
To: 1 Fish Seine £ 300. to 30 Head of Sheep £ 1200.	1500. 0. 0
To: 4 old Casks.	30. 0. 0

By: Ralph Dixon
Wm: Trower
Francis Costin

Robert Trower Admr:

At a Court held for Northampton County the 11th day of June 1782. This Inventory and Appraisement of the Estate of Douglas Willet dec'd was returned and ordered to be recorded.

Exa.d: Test:

A Division of the Estate of Douglas Willet dec.d made this 10th day of June 1781. Between his widow Elizabeth Willet and his son Douglas Willet. To cash in paper money after all demands settled to each party £ 1154. 0. 0"

(NorthamptonCoWill Book 26, pages 552-553)

1. Douglas: b about 1761; m 1796 Betsey Savage, the daughter of Abel Savage; d 1801. See next Q.1.1.4.4.1.

Q.1.1.4.4.1
DOUGLAS WILLET and BETSEY SAVAGE of Northampton County, Virginia

Douglas Willet was born about 1761. He was a teenager when the American Revolution began. The revolution did not have the support of the whole population, as our history books would lead us to believe. Every community had its Loyalists supporters of King George; and the Shore was no different. It is thought, that Douglas' father, Douglas Willet, was a Loyalist. At least, in one instance, when a Negro slave named Ned was captured from a British ship that belonged to Douglas' father, the slave was sold by the state instead of being returned to his owner.

In 1782, Douglas inherited 4 slaves from his father's estate (Woser, Pleasant, China, and Adah). The slave Woser was probably the slave "Worcester" that his father had bought from the Michael Dixon estate in 1771.

In 1796, Douglas married Betsey Savage the daughter of Abel Savage.

Douglas Willett died in 1801.

His children had William Fitchet appointed as their guardian. It is thought that he did not have any brothers, and since the only known children in his family were females, the Willett name ended in this line.

His three daughters married into the Turpin family. John Turpin had married sometime between 1773 and 1799 Sarah Gascoygne. Their sons were John D. Turpin (married 1st Nancy Willett, and 2d Elizabeth Willett), and Thomas H. Turpin (married Leah Willett).

1. Nancy: b abt 1795. An orphan account exists for 1806 with William Custis as her guardian. On December 9, 1809, Nancy Willett married John D. Turpin (Marriage Bonds and Licenses 1706-1853, Northampton County, Virginia). Possibly died about 1817.

2. Elizabeth: b abt 1797. Orphan accounts exist for 1806, 1811, 1812, 1813, and 1814 with William Custis as her guardian in 1807, and William Fitchet in 1811, and 1814. On January 15, 1819, a Elizabeth Willit married John D. Turpin (Marriage Bonds and Licenses 1706-1853, Northampton County, Virginia). This was possibly her (deeceased?) sister's husband.

3. Leah: b abt 1798. An orphan account exists for 1806; in 1807 her guardian is William Custis. On December 1,1812, Leah Willett married Thomas Turpin (Marriage Bonds and Licenses 1706-1853, Northampton County, Virginia).

Q.1.1.4.4.1.1
NANCY WILLET of Northampton County

Nancy Willet was born about 1795. In her father's will of 1801, it is mentioned that she was born before he had married her mother.

An orphan account exists for 1806 with William Custis as her guardian.

On December 9, 1809, Nancy Willett married John Turpin (Marriage Bonds and Licenses 1706-1853, Northampton County, Virginia).

"Nancy Willet, orphan of Douglas Willet: To William Custis

(for the year 1806)

January 15th	
2 pairs of shoes at 9/, 4½ yds Calico at 3/6	1.13. 9
Making a habit 2/, Cambrick Muslin 1/6	0. 3. 6
3 yds Virginia Stuff at 2/ 1 Shawl 33/, 1¼ yards edging 1/6	2. 2. 6½
1 yd Ribbon 4½ Cotton for a pair of Stockings 3/	0. 3. 4½
1/2 oz of thread 1/1½, 5 yds Muslin at 2/, 1 yd Velvet ribbon	0.11.10
1 pair Morocco Shoes 9/, 1 paper Pins 1/3, 2 yds Muslin 6/	1. 2. 3
May 21th	
3 yds ribbon at 9d. 3 yds do. at 4½ 1 Handkerchief 2/3	0. 5. 7½
Remnant of silk 4/6. 1 Hair Comb 3/. 1 pair gloves 2/7	0.10. 1
altering a habit 4/ 1 pair silk Gloves 9/	0.13. 0
Making Bonnet 1/6. 4 yds Virginia check Linnen at 9/	0.13. 6
2 yds Cotton Muslin at 6/6. 2 yds Muslin at 6/9	1. 6. 6
2 yds Ribbon 4½, taste? 4½, 2yds do 4½ 1 fan 1/1½	0. 2. 7½
2 yds do. at 1/1½ 2 yds Muslin at 2/. 1 oz thread 1/6 Habit	0. 9. 9
Making a Coat 1/6. 1 pair Cotton hoses 9/9	0.11. 3
August 16th	
3 yds ribbon at 1/6. 1½ yds Muslin at 6/9. 1 Comb 6/3 silk	0.15. 0

Cash 4/½ 1 pair Moracco Shoes 9/, 4½ yds Calico at 3/6	1. 5. 1½
Septr 8th	
Cash paid the Dancing Master	2. 8. 0
¼ yd cotton Cambrick at 6/, 4 yds Calico at 2/3	0.10. 6
November 19th	
1 pair of Shoes 9/, 3/4 yds of Silk at 4/6	0.12. 6
3½ yds ribbon at 1/1½ making 2 shifts 1/4	0. 6. 1¼
5 yds Calico 3/9. Board from 1st Jany 1806 to 1st Jany 1807	12.18.9
	29. 0. 7¼

Contra:

By Interest for 890 Dollars	£ 16. 0. 6
By Negro hire	13. 0. 0
	29. 0. 6

At a Court held for Northampton County the 12th day of October 1807, This account of Profits of the Estate of Nancy Willet orphan was exhibited and sworn to by William Custis, her Guardian and ordered to be recorded.

Teste: Thos: Savage Clk"
(NorthamptonCoOrphan Accounts Book 2, page 419)

Q.1.1.4.4.1.2
ELIZABETH WILLET of Northampton County, Virginia

Elizabeth Willet was born about 1797. She was orphaned when she was about 5 years old. Orphan accounts exist for 1806, 1811, 1812, 1813, and 1814 with William Custis as her guardian in 1807, and William Fitchet in 1811, and 1814.

On January 15, 1819, a Elizabeth Willit married John D. Turpin (Marriage Bonds and Licenses 1706-1853, Northampton County, Virginia). Both her sisters married into the Turpin family.

The orphan accounts of Elizabeth Willet give a capsule picture of what a young girl of the 1800s had, so the accounts are given in their entirety below.

"Elizabeth Willet, Orphan of Douglas Willet,
To William Custis, Guardian

(for the year 1806)

January 15th	
To 2 pair of shoes at 7/6 and pair of Stockings	0.18. 0
3 ½ yds Calico at 2/9 yd; ribbons 4 ½ making 1 frock	0.12. 0
1 pair Morocco Shoes 5/3, 1 paper pins 1/3, 3 yds Linen at 3	0.15. 6
April	
Making a frock 2/ 1 pair Gloves 2/ 1 fan 1/½	0. 5. 1½
September 5th	
Maintenance of a Negro child from 11 Febuary 1804 to Easter 1806	
Say 2 years 6 months and 24 days at $ 12.00 per year	4. 8. 0

3 yds Calico at 2/3, 4 yds Virginia Linen at 3/	0.18. 9
3/4 yds Silk at 4/6. Making 2 Shifts at 1/1½	0. 5. 7¼
2¼ yds Ribbon at 1/1½ Making a Bonnet 1/6, 1 frock 1/6	0. 5. 6¼
Board from the 1st January 1806 until 1st January 1807	13. 0. 0
	21. 8. 6
Contra: 1806	
By Interest on 890 Dollars for 1806	16. 0. 6
By hire of a Negro Man £ 2. 8. ditto Negro woman £ 3	5. 8. 0
	21. 8. 6

At a Court held for Northampton County the 12th day of October 1807, These accounts of Profits of the Estates of Leah Willet and Elizabeth Willet, Orphans were exhibited and sworn to by William Custis their Guardian, and Ordered to be recorded.

Teste: Thos: Savage Clk"
(NorthamptonCoOrphan Accounts Book 2, page 420)

"Elizabeth Willit, orphan of Douglas Willit, to Wm: Fitchett.

(For the year 1811).

To: Board the Balance of this year	£	8.10. 0
To: 4 yds of Calico at 1/10		0. 7. 6
To: 4 Do: Calico at 2/3		0. 9. 0
To: 2 pr leather Shoes at 6/		0.12. 0
To: 1 pr of Morocco Shoes at 7/6		0. 7. 6
To: The support of her Negroes		8. 8. 0
	£	18.14. 0
Interest on £ 258. 12 in my hands	£	10.19. 9
To the 1/3 hire of an old negro Woman		0. 8. 4
Balance due me	£	7. 5.11

(For the year 1812)

To: Board	£	12. 0. 0
To: 2 Virginia dresses 10 yards at 2/6		1. 5. 0
To: 1 hair Comb 3/-		0. 3. 0
To: 1 Bonnet 18/-		0.18. 0
To: 2 pair of leather shoes 6/9		0.13. 6
To: 1 pr of Morocco Shoes 7/6		0. 7. 6
To: 4 yds of Muslin at 4/-		0.15. 0
To: 5 yards of Calico at 4/-		1. 0. 0
To: 1 Muslin Shall (Shawl) 6/-		0. 6. 0
To: 3/4 yd of Cambrick Muslin 6/-		0. 4. 6
To: 1 Ball of Cotton		0. 0. 9
	£	17.12. 9

To: the Support of Adah and two children		3. 6. 0
To: keeping Peter		9.0. 0
		29.18. 9
To: the Interest on £ 253 12 in my hands	£	15.10. 6
To: the 1/3 hire of an old Woman		0. 8. 4
Balance due me	£	14. 0. 1

(For the year 1813)

To: Board	£	12. 0. 0
To: 1 Hair Comb 3/-, 1 Bunch Wire 9d		1. 3. 9
To: 3 yds of White Ribon at 1/ 1/2		0. 3. 4-
To: 1 pr of Morocco 7/6		0. 7. 6
To: 1/2 yard of Ceanod? 10/6		0. 5. 3
To: 1 Ball of cotton at 9d		0. 0. 9
To: 2 pr of leather Shoes at 6/9		0.13. 6
To: 4 1/2 yds Muslin at 2/3		0.10. 1-
To: 5 yds of Calico at 2/3		0. 4. 3
	£	14.15. 6
To: the Support of Adah and children		3. 6. 0
To: Keeping Peter		9. 0. 0
		27. 1. 6
Interest in £ 258 12 in my hands		15.10. 4
	£	11.11. 3

A list of property Belonging to Elizabeth Willit, orphan of Douglas Willit, deceased, Rec'd by me the sum of £ 258. 12 the 6th April, 1811, a negro man Peter he is very fittefide? 1 wench, 1 child, and with child. 1st January, 1813, Then rec'd fifteen dollars for the one third part of a old negro Woman sold.

October 10th, 1814 William Fitchett

At a Court held for Northampton County the 10th day of October, 1814; this account of the profits of the Estate of Elizabeth Willitt having been inspected by the Court and sworn to by the guardian was ordered to be recorded.

Teste: B. Upshur"

(NorCoOrphan Accounts Book No. 3, pages 11-13)

Q.1.1.4.4.1.3
LEAH WILLET and THOMAS TURPIN of Northampton County

Leah Willet was born about 1798. An orphan account exists for 1806; in 1807 her guardian is William Custis.

In Northampton County, on December 1, 1812, Leah Willett married Thomas Turpin (Marriage Bonds and Licenses 1706-1853, Northampton County, Virginia).

"Leah Willet, Orphan of Douglas Willet, To William Custis, Guardian
(for the year 1806)

January 15th

To 2 pair of shoes at 7/6, 3½ yd Calico at 2/9	1. 4. 7½
Making one frock 2/ 1 yd Ribbon 4½	0. 2. 4½
1 pair Morocco Shoes 5/3, 1 ditto, ditto 5/3	0.10. 6
1 paper pins 1/3, 3 yds Linnen at 3/ making frock 2/	0.12. 3
1 pair of Gloves 2/ 1 fan 1/1½ 3 yds Calico at 2/3	0. 9.10½
4 yds Virginia Linnen at 3/ 3/4 yd Silk at 2/3	0.15. 4½
2¼ yds Ribbon at 1/1½ Making 2 shifts at 1/1½ 0. 4. 9¼	
Making one Bonnet 1/6 making one frock 1/6	0. 3. 0
Cash paid Joseph Oliver for schooling	1. 4. 1½
Board from the 1st January 1806 until 1st January 1807	13. 0. 0
	18.13.10

Contra: 1806
By Interest on 890 Dollars $ 53.00
By the hire of Nanny $ 16.69
By hire of Sarah with children $ 2. Bal: due orphan $ 9.79

At a Court held for Northampton County the 12th day of October 1807, These accounts of Profits of the Estates of Leah Willet and Elizabeth Willet, Orphans were exhibited and sworn to by William Custis their Guardian, and Ordered to be recorded.

Teste: Thos: Savage Clk"
(NorthamptonCoOrphan Accounts Book 2, page 420)

Q.1.1.5

WILLIAM WILLETT, Junior, and ROSE GOSSIGAN of Northampton County

William Willett, Junior, of Northampton County, Virginia, was born about 1696. He grew up on his father's plantation on Old Plantation Creek.

He married Rose Gossigan before March 5, 1720. Thomas Gossigan of Northampton County left a bequest to "my daughter, Rose Willitt, foure cows" (NHCoWills XXIII-R-66).

William Willett died in 1725, thus predeceasing his father by 14 years.

"In the name of God, Amen, I, William Willet, Jun., of the County of Northampton, being in a weak and low condition, but of perfect mind and memory, thanks be to God, but calling to mind the certainty of death, not knowing now soon it may please God to take me to himself, I do make and ordain this my last Will and Testament and this to void all former wills made by me and this to remain my last will to the form and manner followeth.

Item: I give and bequeath my soul to the Almighty God who gave it unto me and my body to be decently buried at the discretion of my executors, hereafter, mentioned and to what worldly goods it hath pleased God to endow me with I do dispose of as followeth:

Item: I give and bequeath to my loving wife Rose Willet my best feather bed, bolster, and two pillows, a Bodilled Cord? and Matt, my best rugg, two blankets, and two shawls, the best I have and my best Chest and one pair of curtains, Vullins of linen.

Item: I give to my son Thomas Willett my Ovole Table, and my wives wedding ring.

Item: I give to my daughter Mary Willet my large Brass Kittle.

Item: after my just debts and funeral charges paid, then my will and desire is that the remainder part of my estate be it of what nature or quality forever shall be equally divided between my wife, and my two children, Thomas and Mary Willet, before the Day of her Marriage.

Item: I do constitute and appoint my loving wife, Rose Willet, my whole and sole Executrix of this my last will and Testament requesting my two friends, Thomas and John Gossigon, to aiding and assisting my executrix to see this my Last Will and Testament performed to the true intent and meaning of this my Last Will and Testament. In witness whereof I have set my hand and fixed my Seal, this thirteeth day of December, One Thousand, Seven hundred, twenty-five.

William Willett

Signed, Sealed in the presence of
Test: William Willett
Ann Willett
Thomas Goffigon

At a court held for Northampton County, on Tuesday the 11th day of January, 1725, the within last Will and Testament of William Willett, deceased, was presented in Court by Rose Willet, his executrix who made Oath thereto and being proven by the Oaths of William Willet, and

Thomas Goffingon, two of the witnesses thereto, is admitted to record and on the motion of the said executrix, she performing what is usual in such cases, certificate is granted her for obtaining probate therof in due form."

The William Willett who witnessed this will is most likely his father. Likewise, Ann Willett is most likely his mother. The Thomas Goffigan mentioned above was either his father-in-law or his brother-in-law.

Rose Willett, widow, married before August 12, 1735, as her 2d husband, Francis Stokley.

1. Thomas: b abt 1720; inherited in 1725 from his father "my Ovole table and my wives wedding ring." Thomas married Tabitha. In 1739, Thomas inherited from his grandfather, William Willett, 400 acres; he died in 1752. See next Q.1.1.5.1.

2. Mary (senior): b abt 1722; inherited in 1725 her father's "large Brass Kettle."

Q.1.1.5.1
THOMAS WILLETT of Northampton County, Virginia

Thomas Willett was born about 1705. He was orphaned in 1725. In 1739, he inherited 400 acres from his grandfather, William Willett. He married Tabitha about 1740. Thomas Willett died in 1752.

"In the name of God, Amen. I, Thomas Willet, of Northampton County in Virginia, Being at this time Sick and Weak, but of perfect Sense and Memory, praise be to almighty God, but Calling to mind the uncertainty of this Life, I do make and ordain this my last Will and Testament.

First and principally, I do give and Recommend my soul to the almighty God who gave it me, and my Lord and Savior Jesus Christ who Sanctified and redeemed me trusting through his mercy I shall enjoy Everlasting Life with him in the kingdom of heaven and my body to the Earth from whence it was taken To be Decently buried at the discretion of my Executors hereafter mentioned and to the disposing of my Worldly Goods shall be as followeth.

Item: I give to my Son, William Willett, one feather bead and furniture, the Choice in my house.

Item: I give to my Loving Wife Tabitha Willett one feather bed and furniture, the Choice in my house.

Item: I give to my daughter Anne one feather Bed and furniture, next Choice in my house.

Item: I give to my daughter Elizabeth one feather Bed and Furniture, next choice in the house.

Item: I give to my son William my two guns.

Item: I leave my Negro fellow Casar to be sold to pay my Debts.

Item: my Will is that my wife Tabetha Willett shall have the use and Benefit of all the remainder Part of my Estate During her widowhood, but, if she should Marry, then my Estate shall be Equally divided be-

tween my wife and Children.

Lastly: I do nominate and appoint my loving Wife Tabitha Willett whole and sole executrix of this my Last Will and Testimony whereunto I have set my hand and fixed my Seal this 21st day of January, one thousand, Seven hundred and fifty one.

Thomas Willett

Signed, Sealed in the
Presence of
Matthew Floyd
Thomas Goffigon
William Stockley

At a Court held for Northampton County, the 11th day of February, 1752. The last Will and Testament of Thomas Willett, deceased, was Proved by the Oaths of Thomas Goffigan, and William Stockly, witnesses thereto and ordered to be recorded. And upon the motion of Matthew Floyd, Junior, and he having given Bond with Security and taken the Oath for the true performance of the same according to Law, Certificate is granted him for obtaining Letters of Adminstration of the Estate of the said Thomas Willett with his Will annexed in due form."

1. William: b abt 1742; in 1752, inherited 400 acres and "my two guns" from his father. When he died unmarried, the land passed to his sister, Elizabeth.

2. Anne: b abt 1745; mentioned in her father's will of 1752.

3. Elizabeth: b abt 1747; m May 5, 1770, Southy Nelson. The Al Wise House (N17A) was built by Southy Nelson, and Elizabeth lived there.

CHAPTER EIGHTEEN
DAVID WILLETT of ROANOKE COUNTY, VIRGINIA
(Formerly Botetourt County)

A David Willett was born in Pennsylvania in 1715. There is a tradition that a David Willett came to the Roanoke area about 1740, and that he was from Pennsylvania. According to one account a Heckman, Willett, Martin, and Webster came down to the Bent Mountain area of the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia from Pennsylvania on a hunting and trapping expedition.

> "With nothing but their guns, ammunition, carving knives, and frying pans, they passed down the Valley of Virginia, following the path of the Great Trail ...
>
> Crossing Roanoke River, the stream then being unnamed, and seeing the Blue Mountains looming up in the distance, they made their way southwestward, until they came to a stream flowing to the east, and which the reader has already guessed to be Back Creek. In this veritable wilderness, the hardy huntsmen found game to be plentiful, and with a salubrious climate, the fertile bottom lands of Back Creek furnished an ideal spot for settlement.
>
> Returning to Pennsylvania for their families, a second trip was made over the same route by the four adventuresome pioneers. After leaving the Roanoke River, Heckman went further to the southward and reared his cabin at the foot of CaHay'S Knob in Franklin County. Willett, believed to have been David Willett, took up his abode at the forks of the creek where the Ferguson school house now stands (1912)" (History of Roanoke, page 73).

It this tradition is true, then the David Willett whose story is taken up in this chapter is most likely a grandson of the David Willett of tradition.

In 1770, a David Willett (the same as above, or perhaps a son) had a license to operate an ordinary in Botetourt County, Virginia. In 1800, David Willett paid a poll tax, in Botetourt County, for 2 males over the age of 21.

R.1
DAVID WILLETT and POLLY BAUGHAN of Botetourt County, Virginia

David Willett was born about 1780. It is unknown were he was born, exactly when he was born, or who his parents were. However, one tradition suggests that either he, or his ancestors, came from Pennsylvania.

He met and courted Polly Baughan of Orange County, Virginia. He married Polly Baughan, the daughter of Thomas Baughan. The official bond was granted in Orange County, Virginia, on March 21, 1799 with Thomas Baughon, father of Polly, granting Mr. David Willett, liberty to secure the marriage license. David Willett and Joseph Baughon were sureties. Most likely Joseph Baughon was Polly's brother. Orange County, Virginia, was the parent county of Augusta County (formed 1745), Botetourt County (formed 1770), and finally Roanoke County (formed 1838). Virginia law of that day required that the marriage bond be issued in the county were the bride lived. Thus it is likely that David Willet never resided in Orange County, but only recorded the marriage bond there.

On November 12, 1810, David Willett and Mary his wife sold land in Orange County, Virginia, to William H. Smith. This land was near Smith's Mill and on the Rapadan River. Evidently, David Willett had moved from his former home to Roanoke County, Virginia. The deed was recorded at Salem, Virginia, in the Roanoke County Courthouse.

On February 29, 1820, "John Tonrose Wood, and James Stanhope Wood, and Sally Wood, his wife, of Botetourt County and State of Virginia of the one part, and David Willett of the said County and State of Virginia of the other part ... (for) the sum of seventeen hundred and fifty dollars ... four hundred acres" (Botetourt General Index to Deeds, Grantees 1770-1889, Deed Book 14, pages 324-325). This land adjoined a mill pond.

David Willett is listed in the 1820 Botetourt County census. On August 12, 1822, he owed $520.20 to Bowyer Miller. He sold the above land which he had bought of the Woods to pay this debt.

On December 14, 1829, he purchased 446 acres in Botetourt County, Virginia, from James Bream for $892.00. This was to become the Willett home for the next several generations, and was left by David Willett, Senior, to his children. This land was on the head waters of Back Creek on Bent Mountain. His son, David Willett, Junior, already owned adjoining land when he made this purchase.

> There is a tradition that he "brought the first pippin apple trees to Back Creek ... He also introduced what is known as the Willett apple in this section. Trees planted by him are still standing and bearing fruit (1912)" (History of Roanoke County, page 82).

David Willett, Senior, is listed in the 1830 Botetourt County census. In 1837, he filed for several land grants (for 300, 40, and 100 acres); however, all requests for a grant were found to be defective and "not to be delivered" by the state. Roanoke County was formed out of Botetourt County in 1838. David Willett's land fell in the new county. He is not mentioned in the 1840 Roanoke County census.

David Willett died in 1844 in Roanoke County, Virginia, and left an unsigned and uncompleted will which was recorded in the Roanoke County Courthouse at Salem.

> "In the name of God, Amen. I, David Willett of the County Of Roanoke, being sick and weak in body, but of sound mind and disposing memory (for which I thank God) and calling to mind the uncertainty of human life and being desireous to dispose of all such wordly estate as it has pleased God to bless me with. I give and begeath the same in manner following, that is to viz:
>
> Item 1st: I desire that all the perishable part of my estate be immediately sold after my decease and out of the monies arising there from all my Just debts and funeral expenses be paid.
>
> 2nd-ly: After the payment of my debts and funeral expenses. I give to my wife, Mary Willett, one third part of my estate both real and personal for and during her natural life and after her decease, I give the same to my Children herein after mentioned equally divided among them and to be enjoyed by them forever.
>
> 3rd-ly: I give to my four daughters, Mary Welch, Patry Crawford, Nancy Crawford, and Elizabeth Willett, seventy five acres of land each. Patry Crawford and Nancy Crawford to have their portion on the end of

the land where they now live and Mary Welch and Elizabeth Willett to have their portion adjoining the other two, to them and to their heirs forever.

4th-ly: It is my desire that the residue of my lands (after what I have before named be laid off) be equally divided between my four sons, Samuel, David, William, and James. So as each to have where he has improved or now lives; to them and their heirs forever; Except:

5th-ly: It is my desire that my son David's share of my estate both real and personal be enjoyed by him or the profits thereof only during his natural life and at his decease to be divided between his lawful Children and to be enjoyed by them forever.

6th-ly: (Here the will stops; it was not signed or dated)

(Botetourt County Will Book, page 1213)

On May 25, 1844, James Willett, the youngest son, purchased a clear title for 78 acres of land from his brothers and sisters. This land was part of the original 1829 David Willett, Sr., purchase and was on the head waters of Back Creek. The bill of sale is given here because it clearly defines David Willett's family at the time of his death.

"This Indenture, made this 25th day of May in the year 1844. Between Wm D. Willet and Sarah, his wife, David Willet and Sarah, his wife, Samuel Willet, Elizabeth Willet, Floyd Crawford and Martha, his wife, Isaac Crawford and Nancy, his wife, of the county of Roanoke and State of Virginia and Thomas Welch of the County of Monroe and State of Missouri of the one part, and James Willet of the County of Roanoke and the State of Virginia of the other part. Witnesseth: That the said William Willet and Sarah, his wife, David Willet and Sarah, his wife, Samuel Willet, Elizabeth Willet, Floyd Crawford and Martha, his wife, Isaac Crawford and Nancy, his wife, and Thomas Welch, for an in consideration of the said James Willet relinguishing his right to certain other lands, have bargained and sold and by the presents do and each of them doth bargain and sell unto the said James Willet, his heirs and assigns, a certain tract or parcell of land containing Seventy Eight acres be the same more or less it being his share in the land of David Willet Sr., Decd., and lot No. 5 in the partition of said lands and the said Seventy Eight acres lying and being in the county of Roanoke on the head waters of Back Creek and Bounded as follows to wit: Beginning at a hickory on a line of M.. Frantz and corner to William Willet and with Frantz line S 5 1/2 W 22 poles to a white oak S 19 W 17 poles to a spanish oak stump and two Dogwoods, corner to David Willet and with the same S 6, W 26 poles crossing the south fork of the creek to a gum in the mouth of a hollow S 41 W 180 poles to a chestnut and a hickory sapling on the outside line and with the same N 60 1/2 W 38 poles to a chestnut and cucumber, corner to Samuel Willet and with the same N 22 E 164 poles to a black oak on a hill corner to William Willet and with the same N 81 E 122 poles crossing the creek and the Bent road to the Beginning. To Have and to Hold the said tract or parcell of land with the tenements, here ditaments (sic) and all and singular other the premises herein mentioned or intended to be bargained and sold and every part

and parcell thereof with every of their rights, members and appurtenances unto the said James Willet, his heirs and assigns forever (to and for the only) proper use and behalf of them the said James Willet, his heirs and assigns forever. And the said William Willet and Sarah, his wife, David Willet and Sarah, his wife, Samuel Willet, Elizabeth Willet, Floyd Crawford and Martha, his wife, Isaac Crawford and Nancy, his wife, and Thomas Welch for themselves and their heirs, the said tract of land with all and singular the premises and appurtenances before mentioned unto the said James Willet, his heirs and assigns free from claim or claims of them the Said William Willet and Sarah, his wife, David Willet and Sarah, his wife, Samuel Willet, Elizabeth Willet, Floyd Crawford and Martha, his wife, Isaac Crawford and Nancy, his wife, and Thomas Welch or either of them or either of their heirs and of all and every person or persons whatsoever shall, will and do warrant and forever defend by these presents. In witness thereof the said William Willet and Sarah, his wife, David Willet and Sarah, his wife, Samuel Willet, Elizabeth Willet, Floyd Crawford and Martha, his wife, Isaac Crawford and Nancy, his wife, and Thomas Welch have hereunto set their hands and affixed their seals the day and year first mentioned.

William Willet
Sarah Willet

(the other names probably follow, but the xerox copy which I have is cut off at Sarah's name)

(RoanokeCoDeeds, dated 25 May 1844)

1. Samuel: b 1797; m 1846 Hannah Grub (b 1799). See next R.1.1.

2. David: b 1802; m abt 1834 Sarah Darby (b 1813). See next R.1.2.

3. Mary: b abt 1803; m before 1844 Thomas Welch. They moved to Monroe County, Missouri.

4. Martha (Patry): b abt 1805; m in Roanoke County in 1839 Floyd Crawford.

5. Nancy: b abt 1807; m before 1844 Isaac Crawford.

6. William: b 1808; m Sarah (b 1814); d before May, 1892. See next R.1.6.

7. Elizabeth: b abt 1809; unmarried in 1844.

8. James: b 1810; (in father's will as James, in the 1850 census as John?); m Sarah (b 1815). See next R.1.8.

R.1.1
SAMUEL WILLETT and HANNAH GRUB of Roanoke County, Virginia

Samuel was born in 1797, probably in old Botetourt County, Virginia. His father moved to Botetourt County, Virginia, probably before 1799.

Samuel married 1st about 1834; his wife's name is unknown. He married 2d in 1846 Hannah Grub (b 1799). In 1844, he received a ¼ share of his father's estate.

Roanoke County had been formed out of Botetourt County in 1838. Samuel Willett's land fell in the new county.

Samuel is listed as the head of a household in the 1840 Roanoke County census. In the 1850 census, he listed his occupation as farmer, and valued his real estate at $300.00. (1840, 1850 Roanoke County census).

1. William: b 1836. (1850 Roanoke County census).

2. Elizabeth: b 1838. (1850 Roanoke County census).

3. David: b 1840. (1850 Roanoke County census).

4. Josephus: b 1843. (1850 Roanoke County census).

5. Mary: b 1845. (1850 Roanoke County census).

R.1.2
DAVID WILLETT and SARAH DARBY of Roanoke County, Virginia

David Willett, Junior, was born in 1802, probably in old Botetourt County, Virginia, when it included most of western Virginia. His father owned land in Orange County in 1810, and then removed to moved to Botetourt County, Virginia, sometime between 1810 and 1820.

David Willett married about 1834 Sarah Darby (b 1813). He inherited a ½ interest in 30 acres of land which his father-in-law, James Darby had left to his two daughters.

On March 23, 1835, he sold his ½ interest in 30 acres for $15.00.

On June 6, 1835, he borrowed $100.00 from Bethana Kittinger and secured his loan with his livestock and household furniture.

Roanoke County was formed out of Botetourt County in 1838. David Willett's land fell in the new county.

He is listed as the head of a household in the 1840 Roanoke County census. In the 1850 census, he listed his occupation as laborer, and he did not list himself as owning any real estate.

He probably died before 1860, as he is not mentioned in the 1860 or 1870 census. In 1892, his children sold land which he had left to them as part of his estate.

> "This Deed made the 5th day of May, 1892, between Wm G. Ferguson and Lucy J., his wife, of the First part, and David Willett heirs, namely James, F.M., Stephen, D.C., and Julia Willett of the second part, all of the county of Roanoke and State of Virginia. Witnesseth, that for and in consideration of the sum of Two hundred and Thirty Dollars ($230.00) to them in hand paid by the parties of the second part, receipt of which

is hereby acknowledged by the trustees of the first part, doth give, grant, bargain and sell to the parties of the second part, all of ... right and title invested in them by a Deed dated the 5th day of July 1884 from John M. ... Ferguson ... of A.K. Ferguson, Bankrupt and of record in the Clerk's office, Roanoke County, all that certain tract of land situate and lying in the County of Roanoke and State of Virginia and bounded as follows, to wit: beginning at two dynns (sic); thence ... poles to a white oak stump; thence N 2 W 156 poles crossing the creek to a sourwood and chestnut on the bent road; thence N 19 E 3 poles to a spanish oak stump and two dogwoods corner lot No. 5 and with the same S 5 ... W 26 poles crossing the South fork of the creek to a gum in the mouth of a hollow; thence S 41 W 180 poles to a chestnut and hickory sapling on the original lines, and thence with the same S ... E 126 poles to the beginning; to have and to hold the same free from any reservauon (sic) of said Ferguson, his heirs, or assigns forever.

Witness the following signatures and seals

Wm G. Ferguson
Lucy J. Ferguson"

(RoanokeCoDeeds, 5 May 1892)

1. James F. M: b May, 1836; m February 21, 1867, Emily W. Yates (d March 18, 1873). (1850, 1860, Roanoke County census). See next R.1.2.1.

2. Julia Ann: b 1840; she was the unmarried mother of at least one child, and possibly two. (1850, 1860, Roanoke County census).

1. Cora Delusia: b September 15, 1866 (her father was William Wright).

3. Frances M: b March, 1844; m 1867 Mollie Ann Henry; d before June, 1890. (1850, 1860, Roanoke County census). See next R.1.2.3.

4. Stephen: b 1845; m 1st abt 1870 Mary; m 2d 1895 Viola M. (1850, 1860, 1870, Roanoke County census). See R.1.2.4.

5. David Crocket: b May, 1849; m 1870 Fanny H. Miles (b October, 1852); d before after 1900. (1850, 1860, 1870, 1900, Roanoke County census). See next R.1.2.5.

6. Lucy (Fanny): b 1852. (1860, 1870 Roanoke County census).

R.1.2.1
JAMES WILLETT of Roanoke County, Virginia

James Willett was born in May, 1836, in Roanoke County, Virginia. Perhaps he is the James Willett who enlisted at Salem, Roanoke County, Virginia, in Company K, 5th Regiment, Virginia Volunteer Infantry, otherwise known as the "Roanoke Guards." This James Willett was captured by Sherman's Troops at Marietta, Georgia, on July 3, 1864,

and was sent to Nashville, Tennessee, then to Louisville, and finally to Camp Douglas, Chicago, Illinois, where he was discharged on May 18, 1865.

James Willett married on February 21, 1867 Emily W. Yates (b 1848 in Henry County, Virginia; d March 18, 1873). The marriage took place at the house of her father, Daniel S. Yates. In the 1870 census, he is listed as a farmer laborer who does not own any real estate. He and his wife lived in Cave Springs Township at the head of Back Creek.

Emily (Yates) Willett died of fever on March 18, 1873, immediately after the birth of her son, Joseph B. Willett.

James married 2d in 1881 Fanny P. (b 1864).

(1870, 1880, 1900 Roanoke County, Virginia, census).

1. Sla Ann (Nanie E.; Ann): b November 30, 1867, Roanoke County (Register of Births 1853-1885, page 69); m December 20, 1888 James G. Tinnell; d May 5, 1905, at Clayton, Washington. (1880 Roanoke County census). See next R.1.2.1.1.

2. Louisa: b October 19, 1870, Roanoke County (Register of Births, page 85). Louise lived with her aunt Fanny and uncle Duck after the death of her mother. She changed her name to Maggie and married David J. Wilson. In 1900, she was living in Wasatch County, Utah. At this time, her aunt, Julia Ann Willett, age 60, was living with them. (1900 Midway Precinct, Wasatch County, Utah, census). In her will, she left a legacy for family research by the Mormons. (1880 Roanoke County census).

3. Joseph B: b March 18, 1873; d September 8, 1873, of cold.

4. Lee (Lu) Rosie: b October, 1882. (1900 Roanoke County, Virginia, census).

5. Sallie W: b December 6, 1883. (1900 Roanoke County, Virginia, census).

6. Grover C: b May, 1877. (1900 Roanoke County, Virginia, census).

7. Mary B: b June 23, 1887. (1900 Roanoke County, Virginia, census).

R.1.2.1.1
NANIE EMILY WILLETT and JAMES AUGUSTUS TINNELL
of Roanoke County, Virginia, and Spokane, Washington

Nanie Emily (Sla Ann; Ann) Willett was born on November 30, 1867, in Roanoke County, Virginia. She married on December 20, 1888, James G. Tinnell (b October 3, 1867, in Roanoke County, Virgina; d February 25, 1963, at Spokane, Washington), the son of Francis Marion Tinnell and Matilda Grice. James Tinnell was a railroader and a farmer.

They lived in Roanoke County, Virginia, until after 1898, and then lived variously at Clayton, Ford, and Spokane, Washington.

Nanie Emily (Willett) Tinnell died on May 5, 1905, and both she and her husband are buried at the Baptist Churchyard at Loon Lake Cemetery, Clayton, Stevens County, Washington.

1. Alma Gertrude Tinnell: b September 4, 1889, in Roanoke County, Virgina; m December 5, 1909, at Spokane, Washington, William Blair Carr; d November 6, 1918, at St, Maries, Idaho.

2. Cloyd Hampton Tinnell: b March 19, 1891, in Roanoke County, Virginia; m 1st June 12, 1915, at Spokane, Washington, Alta May Dunlap (d March 19, 1960).

3. Stella Esther Tinnell: b March 25, 1894, at Roanoke County, Virginia; m June 15, 1913, at Loon Lake, Washington, Clayton Brewster Agar (d April 27, 1971); d February 4, 1978, at Spokane, Washinton.

4. Ernest Benton Tinnell: b March 8, 1896, at Roanoke County, Virginia; m August 18, 1926, at Wellpinit, Washington, Mary A. Le Bret; d March 25, 1963, at Spokane, Washington.

5. Vera Virginia Tinnell: b May 23, 1898, in Roanoke County, Virginia; m at Spokane, Washington, on January 12, 1922, John Henry Wyburn (d July 26, 1976; buried in the Riverside Cemetery, Spokane, Washington), the son of Albert Aplin and Sophia Beier; and the adopted son of Patrick Henry Wyburn and Augusta Beier.

1. Agnes Elizabeth Wyburn: b April 11, 1923, at Spokane, Washington; m at Spokane, Washington, on July 2, 1942, Donald Wayne Harton (b October 19, 1914, in Benton County, Iowa), the son of Robert Nealy Harton and Daisy Pearl Reed. He served during World War II.

1. Linda Ann Harton: b November 13, 1943, in Spokane, Washington; m August 13, 1966, Donald Neal Clark.

2. David Wayne Harton: b June 1, 1950, at Spokane, Washington; m July 10, 1971, Shannon A. Clark.

R.1.2.3
FRANCES MARION WILLETT and MARY ANN HENRY of Roanoke County, Virginia

Frances Marion Willett was born in March, 1844, in Roanoke County, Virginia. He married in 1867 Mary (Mollie) Ann Henry (b December, 1844), the daughter of Samuel Henry of Poages Mill, Virginia. They lived at the head of Back Creek where he farmed.

> "He was a Justice of the Peace for nine years when the war occurred between the states, he enlisted in the Thirty-Second, Virginia, Regiment, and for four years followed the cause of Jackson and Lee. The war over, he returned to his Bent Mountain home to build up and regain what he had lost in the ravages of war" (History of Roanoke County, George S. Jacks, 1912, page 82).

He died before June, 1890. (1870, 1880, 1900, Roanoke County, Virgina, census).

1. Laura Rebecca: b December 28, 1867, Roanoke County (Register of Births, page 69); m 1885 William L. Ferguson. (1870, 1880 Roanoke County, Virginia, census).

2. Frances M: b January, 1870; m 1903 Lula Herd. (1870, 1880 Roanoke County, Virigina, census). See next R.1.2.3.2.

3. Samuel Henry: b May 28, 1872; m December 26, 1894, Flora B. Baldwin, the daughter of Joseph and Eliza (Hayes) Baldwin of Roanoke County. (1880 Roanoke County census). See next R.1.2.3.3.

4. John Benjamin: b January 10, 1874; m February 3, 1894, Alice Baldwin, the daughter of Joseph and Eliza (Hayes) Baldwin of Roanoke County. (1880 Roanoke County census). See next R.1.2.3.4.

R.1.2.3.2
FRANCES M. WILLETT and LULA HERD of Roanoke County, Virginia

Frances M. Willett (II) was born in 1870 in Roanoke County, Virgina. He married in 1903 Lula D. Herd. In 1900, his mother, Mary A. Willett, age 67, was living with him. (1910 Roanoke County, Virginia, census).

1. Annie L: b 1903. (1910 Roanoke County, Virginia, census).

2. Willie F: b 1905. (1910 Roanoke County, Virginia, census).

3. Mary L: b 1908. (1910 Roanoke County, Virginia, census).

4. Bessie M: b 1910. (1910 Roanoke County, Virginia, census).

R.1.2.3.3
SAMUEL HENRY WILLETT and FLORA B. BALDWIN of Roanoke County, Virginia

Samuel H. Willett was born on May 28, 1872, in Roanoke County. He received his education in the Roanoke County public schools and began life as a farmer and fruit grower at Bent Mountain. He married on December 26, 1894, married Flora B. Baldwin (b May, 1873), the daughter of Joseph and Eliza (Hayes) Baldwin of Bent Mountain.

> "Samuel Henry Willett received his education in the Roanoke County public schools, and began life as a farmer and fruit grower. He is the owner of a fine Bottom Creek farm, where he engages to some extent in stock raising and agricultural pursuits. He has planted an orchard of nine hundred pippin apple trees. They are in thrifty condition and will be extremely valuable in a few years. Mr. Willett is a firm believer in the future of Bent Mountain apples, and every year he plants additional trees" (History of Roanoke County, George S. Jacks, 1912, page 82).

(1900, 1910 Roanoke County census).

1. Emma G: b December, 1895. (1900, 1910 Roanoke County census).

2. William: b August, 1898. (1900, 1910 Roanoke County census).

3. Mary E: b 1900. (1910 Roanoke County census).

4. Price (Hamar?): b 1903. (1910 Roanoke County census).

5. Paul: b 1907. (1910 Roanoke County census).

R.1.2.3.4
JOHN BENJAMIN WILLETT and ALICE BALDWIN of Roanoke County, Virginia

John Benjamin Willett was born on Bent Mountain in Roanoke County on January 10, 1874. He married on February 3, 1894, Alice Baldwin, the daughter of Joseph and Eliza (Hayes) Baldwin of Bent Mountain.

In 1900, he was living in his brother Samuel's household.
(1900, 1910, Roanoke County census).

> "In 1906, John Benjamin Willett formed a copartnership with H. E. Bowman, under the firm name of Bowman and Willett for the purpose of conducting a merchantile business in Roanoke, Virginia, at 511 and 513 South Jefferson Street, and he removed with his family to that city. After three years in Roanoke, the firm established a branch general merchantise store at Poages Mill, Roanoke County, with Mr. Willett as manager of the establishment, also of the large orchard interests of the firm on Bent Mountain. The farm owned by Messrs. Bowman and Willett is on the Bent Mountain turnpike, and located right at the great

bend. The orchard comprises some 1,700 bearing pippin trees, and yielded a handsome crop this year (1912). Mr. Willett is Vice President and a director of the Fruit Grower's Telephone Corporation, the central office of which is under his supervision, being located in the Bowman and Willett store building at Poages Mill.

The firm of Bowman and Willett does a general jobbing business in apples and makes a specialty of buying and shipping in carload lots" (History of Roanoke County, 1912, page 89).

1. Myrabell: b April, 1895. (1900, 1910 Roanoke County census).

2. Roy Baldwin: b May, 1897, in Roanoke County; m 1st (divorced); m 2d in Hampton, Virginia, on September 4, 1939, Lucy Baldwin Gulliam (b 1901 in Franklin, Virginia), the daughter of Charles P. and Mary D. (Sawyer) Gulliam (Elizabeth City Marriage Book, Volume 4, page 34). (1900, 1910 Roanoke County census).

3. John Eldridge: b 1903. (1910 Roanoke County census).

R.1.2.4
STEPHEN WILLETT Roanoke County, Virginia

Stephen Willett was born in Roanoke County, Virginia, in May, 1845. He married about 1st 1870 Mary. He married 2d in 1895 Viola M. (b April, 1866).
(1900 Roanoke County census).

"This Deed made the 25th day of Aug., 1896, between Harriet E. and Andrew McGuhan, her husband, and Margaret T. and James Atkins, her husband, and ... W. and Geo. W. Powell, her husband, parties of the first part, and Mary ... Willett, wife of Stephen Willett, party of the second part, all of Roanoke county Va., except Margaret T. and James Atkins who reside in Dallas County, Texas. Witnesseth: that for and in consideration of one dollar in hand paid, the parties of the first part do grant with general warranty to the party of the second part all their right and interest both in law and equity to a certain lot of land containing 22 3/4 acres being lot No. 1 in the division of the land of the late Joseph R. King situate on Bent Mountain in Roanoke Co., Va., and bounded as follows, to wit: beginning at a stake in the road at a branch corner to dower lot of Sallie F. King; thence with the dower line N 5 W 32 poles to a cherry tree; thence N 35 W 59 poles to a pointer on John Cole's line and with said line W ... E about 30 poles to a stake in said corner to Geo. W. Powell at B on plat of this land; thence with Powell's line S 3 E 40 poles to a locust; thence S 46 ½ E 38 poles to C a stake in Polwell's line corner to lot No. 2 in the division; thence with No. 2 S 37 W 18 poles to a stake near a large rock; thence S 25 W 22 poles to a branch; thence S 15 W ...2 poles to the road at E. on gate post on the line of lot No. 4 of said division; thence with lot No. 4 and the road N 89 W 12 poles; thence S 71 ½ W 13 poles to the beginning.

Witness the following signatures and seals

Andrew McGuhan
Harriet E. McGuhan
Ocoee (sic) V. Powell
George W. Powell
J.A. Atkins
Margaret F. Atkins

(RoanokeCoDeed, dated 20 Aug 1896)

1. Lillie W: b March, 1886. (1900 Cave Spring District, Roanoke County census).

R.1.2.5

DAVID CROCKET WILLETT and FANNY H. MILES of Roanoke County, Virginia

David Crocket Willett was born in May, 1849, in Roanoke County, Virginia. He married in 1870 Fanny H. Miles (b 1854). He died after 1900. Alli Jane (listed below) may be the daughter of his unmarried sister, Julia Ann. Cora, Julia's daughter, is living in his household in 1870.

(1870, 1880, 1900, Roanoke County, census).

1. Alli Jane: b 1868. Possibly the daughter of Julia Willett. (1870 Roanoke County census).

2. Rufus Abner: b July 19, 1871, Roanoke County, Virginia.

3. F. W. (daughter): b 1874.

4. Joseph M: b 1875; m abt 1893 Lillie. (1880, 1910 Roanoke County census).

    1. Ada L: b 1894. (1910 Roanoke County census).

    2. Gorden: b 1898. (1910 Roanoke County census).

    3. Freddie B: b 1906 Virginia.

    4. Kathleen: b 1906 Virginia.

5. Minnie (Mannie): b June, 1877; m abt 1897. (1880, 1900 Roanoke County census).

    1. Rose May Agee: b 1908 (1910 Roanoke County census).

R.1.6
WILLIAM WILLETT and SARAH of Roanoke County, Virginia

William Willett was probably born in 1808 in old Botetourt County, Virginia. His father moved to Botetourt County, Virginia, sometime between 1810 and 1820.

He married about 1830 Sarah (b 1814). They lived on the land his father had purchased in 1829.

Roanoke County was formed out of Botetourt County in 1838. William Willett's land fell in the new county. He is listed as a head of a household in the 1840 Roanoke County census. In the 1850 census, he listed his occupation as farmer, and valued his real estate at $1,000.00.

William Willett died before May, 1892. (1850 Roanoke County census)

1. Mary E: b 1831. (1850 Roanoke County census).

2. Martha J: b 1833. (1850 Roanoke County census).

3. Eliza: b 1836. (1850 Roanoke County census).

4. James M: b 1838. (1850 Roanoke County census).

5. Jacob M: b 1840. (1850 Roanoke County census).

6. Susan: b 1842. (1850 Roanoke County census).

7. Sally: b 1846. (1850 Roanoke County census).

8. Lucy: b 1850. (1850 Roanoke County census).

R.1.8
JAMES WILLETT of Roanoke County

James Willett was born about 1810; probably in old Botetourt County, Virginia. His father moved to Botetourt County, Virginia, sometime between 1810 and 1820.

In his father's will he is called James; in the 1850 census he is called John. This is not too unusual, but this discrepancy must be kept in mind in case the John Willett of the 1850 census should prove to not be the James Willett of 1810. However, it would be even more unusual if a John Willett moved onto the old David Willett, Senior, estate, and named his children with the same Christian names as those used by the David Willett, Senior, family. Also, a John Henry Willett, age 65, was living in his household in 1850. Children are listed in the 1850 census, but due to their similarly in names and ages with his brother David's, the census taker may have errored.

James Willett married about 1830 Sarah (b 1815). This may have been a first marriage. They lived on his father's land in Roanoke County, Virginia.

On May 25, 1844, James Willett purchased, from his brothers and sisters, a clear title to 78 acres of land which was part of his father's estate.

In 1860, his wife's name is listed as Lucy (b 1820). Perhaps he had married a 2d time. Lucy Willett, age 50, is listed in the 1870 census alone as the head of a household. Perhaps, James Willett had died between 1860 and 1870.

CHAPTER NINETEEN
A SURVEY OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

In 1907, Lee County was formed out of that part of old Chatham County that was south of the Deep River. The town of Sanford was astride the original Chatham-Moore County line, and it appears that the 1850 census takers included the residents of Sanford, and the area just south of Sanford, in the 1850 Chatham County census. Evidently, in 1860 and later, the same residents were properly counted in Moore County until 1900. In 1910, the same residents came under the newly formed Lee County.

S.1
JAMES WILLETT of Chatham County, North Carolina

James Willett was born about 1740. It is unknown who his parents were, or where he came from. It is thought that James Willett may have been the father of John, Richard, and James Willett, Jr. If this assumption is correct, he probably came to Chatham County, North Carolina, during the Revolution. The boundaries of Chatham County have changed very little since 1780, and any records of this James should be found in Chatham.

It must be assumed that James Willett married about 1760. His wife's name is unknown; but, since he named one of his sons, Russell, and since one of his neighbors in Chatham County was a Russell, she may have been a Russell.

The earliest mention of James Willett in Chatham County is on July 1, 1779, when the State of North Carolina sold to James Willis (sic) 358 acres on the east side of New Hope River (Chatham County, North Carolina Deeds, 1770-1782, page 359). A year later, on March 6, 1780, James Willis (sic) sold to Robert Russell, for 1,000 pounds, the same 358 acres, beginning at a sweet gum tree and running down the various courses of the said creek (unnamed) (Chatham County, North Carolina Deeds, 1770-1782, page 409).

On June 23, 1780, James Willis (sic) witnessed a deed between Christopher Smith to Greenham Dodson. Later when the deed was proved in Court, it was James Willitt's oath which was taken as a witness to the deed (Chatham County, North Carolina Deeds, 1770-1782, page 408).

On May 12, 1783, James Willett witnessed a deed between Greenham Dodson and John Sinclaire. On August 11, 1783, he was a member of the county jury. On October 9, 1783, James William purchased 300 acres of land on the north side of Bear Creek adjoining the land of James Willott (sic) (Chatham County, North Carolina, Deeds 1780-1785, page 330). On November 8, 1783, James Willett was ordered to work on the road which ran from Oak Hill to Bear Creek. It was also in 1783, that Camobellbellton at the head of Cross Creek was renamed Fayetteville in honor the Marquis LaFayette. Fayetteville was at the head of the furtherest navigable point on the Cape Fear River. Inland farmers, such as James Willett of Chatham County, would bring down their farm goods on the corderoy road or float them down on the Cape Fear and bring them to market in Fayetteville's market square. The great fire in 1868, destroyed the state house in Fayetteville, and te present Tow House (called Market House today) dates from this time.

James Willett had jury duty again on February 14, 1785. This was most likely in Pittsboro in Chatham County.

On November 26, 1789, the State of North Carolina granted to James willett for the sum of fifty shillings for every hundred acres, 450 acres in Chatham County on Bear Creek.

In 1790, James Willit had a household of 4 females, 3 males over 16, and was living in the Hillsborough District of Chatham County. He is the neighbor of John and Richard Willett.

On June 10, 1799, the State of North Carolina granted for the sum of 30 shillings for

every hundred acres, 22 acres on Little Bear Creek in Chatham County.

In February, 1801, James Willet received 16 acres from the estate of William Tucker. In 1808, James Willet bought from the State of North Carolina for ten pounds 100 acres on both sides of Little Bear Creek.

In 1815, James Willett, Senior, is taxed on one black poll, and his land and residence is valued at $400.00. Since he was not taxed for one white poll (himself), he must have been 60 years or older at this time. Thus, he was taxed only on his single slave.

The inventory of James Willits (sic) estate was taken on October 6, 1816. He owned 70 acres of land, one negro man, $10.00 and 11 ½ cents cash money, 8 head of cattle, 2 horses, 20 sheep, and 17 hogs, 2 bee hives, and assorted farm implements.

There is a family tradition that a Charles and a Thomas Willett took up bounty land after the Revolutionary War in Chatham County. If the tradition is true, then there may have been several different Willetts who came into Chatham County about the time of the Revolution.

1. John; b abt 1760 (before 1765); m abt 1780. See next S.1.1.

2. Richard; b abt 1762; he was living in Chatham County in 1790; he probably married there about 1790. Richard Willett purchased from Ashman Lewis for $150.00 Spanish mill dollars, 150 acres on the waters of Bear Creek. He sold the same 150 acres on the waters of Bear Creek to Levi Johnston for 25 pounds. He and his wife are in the 1790 Chatham County census.

3. James, Jr; b abt 1765 (before 1770); m abt 1785 Mary Ann; resided on the east side of Bear Creek, Chatham County, from 1799 onward; b 1816. See next S.1.3.

4. (daughter);

5. William; b abt 1777. A William Willet of Chatham County is listed in the 1800 census. On August 1, 1800, William Willet, purchased from the State of North Carolina, 213 acres at John Willet's corner on the waters of Bear Creek, Chatham County, North Carolina. On September 24, 1800, William Willet purchased from the State of North Carolina, 40 acres on the waters of Bear Creek. On November 15, 1800, he sold to William Ragland for $120.00 the same 40 acres on the waters of Bear Creek, and also his 330 (sic) acres on the northside of Bear Creek. Although nothing more is known about this William Willett, the possibility exists that the "sale" to William Ragland was more in the form of a colonial mortgage than an outright sale. He is possibly the William Willett who is taxed on one white poll in Chatham County in 1815. He married about 1800 Rebecca Thomoson. She was infirm in 1829. (1790 Chatham County census).

6. (daughter);

7. Russell; b abt 1780; m abt 1805; resided in Chatham County; made purchases at the sale of his brother, James Willet, in 1818. (1790 Chatham County census). See next S.1.7.

8. (daughter);

S.1.1
JOHN WILLET, Sr., of Chatham County, North Carolina

John Willet was born about 1760, but definitely before 1765. There is a John Willet living in Chatham County in 1790. John Willet also appears in the 1800 and 1810 census.

In 1810, John Willett owned 3 slaves. In February, 1811, John Willett purchased from Allen Rhoades, etal, for 20 pounds, 20 acres on Little Bear Creek, Chatham County, North Carolina. In the 1815 Chatham County Tax List, John Willett is taxed on one white poll, and owns 160 acres of land adjoining the land of John Willett, Junior, and is taxed on a worth of $400.00. In the 1820 census, a John Willett, Senior, and a John Willet, Junior, are listed for Chatham County. John Willet probably died between 1820 and 1830.

John Willett married about 1780; his wife is unknown but she was born before 1775 and probably died between 1790 and 1810.

(1790, 1810 Chatham County census).

1. W. (probably William): b abt 1783 (bet 1775-1790; 1785-1795); he married about 1805 (wife b bet 1765-1792). (1790, 1810 Chatham County census).

    1. (son): b bet 1810-1820.

    2. (daughter): b bet 1810-1820.

2. (daughter): b abt 1785 (between 1775 and 1790).

3. John, Jr: b abt 1787 (b bet 1775-1790; 1785-1795); m at Chatham County, North Carolina, in 1812, Gilly Thomason (b abt 1795, but definitely bet 1795-1805). On February 19, 1820, John Willett was appointed the guardian of his sister Mary. In 1815, he lived in Chatham County and was taxed on one white poll, and 35 acres of land adjoining the land of John Willett, Senior. He died before April 19, 1849. (1790, 1820, 1830 Chatham County census).

    1. (son): b bet 1810-1820. (1820, 1830 Chatham County census).

    2. (daughter): b bet 1810-1820. (1820 Chatham County census).

4. (son): b abt 1788 (bet 1775-1790). (1790 Chatham County census).

5. (son): b 1789 (bet 1775-1790). (1790 Chatham County census).

S.1.3

JAMES WILLET, Jr. of Bear Creek, Chatham County, North Carolina

James Willet, Jr. was born about 1765, probably in Chatham County, North Carolina. He married about 1785 Mary Ann; she died after 1818.

He was definitely living in Chatham County, North Carolina, before 1790. In February, 179, he paid Simon Bright 5 pounds current money for 16 acres of land on the waters of Bear Creek. In February, 1790, he paid 27 pounds current money to Simon Bright for 31 acres on Bear Creek. In February, 1791, he paid 30 pounds current money to Andrew Eleazar for 53 acres on Bear Creek. In May, 1792, he paid 100 pounds current money to Andrew Eleazar for 225 acres on the southside of Bear Creek.

About 1800, he had a bill of sale between him and William Utley of Wake County. On January 10, 1799, he owned 22 acres on the east side of Little Bear Creek, Chatham County, North Carolina. In February, 1804, he paid 300 pounds current money to William Ragland for 300 acres on the northside of Bear Creek.

In the 1815 Chatham County Tax List, James Willet was taxed on one white poll and he owned 110 acres of land and was worth $200.00.

In his will of July 31, 1818, he mentioned his wife, Mary Ann, and a daughter, Lydia, and other children (which he did not name; most likely, Lydia, was a minor and the other children of age).

> "In the name of God Amen. I, James Willett, of the County of Chatham, and State of North Carolina, being weak in body but of sound and disposing mind and memory do make and ordain this my last will and testament in manner and form following (to wit):
>
> I lend unto my dearly beloved wife Mary Ann Willett during her natural life the house where I now live together with five acres around the same including the spring and said houses with the liberty of getting firewood off my other lands and the balance of my plantation whereon I now live to be rented out for the support and maintenance of my wife and daughter Lydia, who I desire may live with her mother and take care of her and that she, the said Lydia, shall be entitled to the same liberty and priviledges of the said land and houses as her mother is and will be entitled during her life.
>
> And at my wife's death, it is my will and desire that my daughter Lydia be entitled to the same during her natural life.
>
> I also give unto my said wife, one bed and furniture, three chairs, one chest, one table, all the kitchen furniture, one cow and calf, four head of sheep, four three year old barrows, and one sow, and pigs, two barrels of corn, all the wheat made on the plantation, with fodder sufficient to winter the stock. I leave them the corn, hogs and wheat, are intended for their support for one year and at the death of my wife, the said property (except the five acres of land which is intended by me as a home for my daughter Lydia) be sold and equally divided among all my children and the heirs of those of my children who are dead, who shall be entitled to the said share as their father or mother would have been entitled to if living.
>
> And it is my will and ernest desire that my negro man slave Daniel by name be set free and is hereby freely and fully emancipated and set free and it is my ernest desire that my executors and heirs petition the

Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions to be holden for the County of Chatham to make and order to that effect. It is also my desire and will that my daughter Lydia and Polly Fields have all the cotton now growing on the plantation and the balance of my property not mentioned both real and personal, I will and desire may be sold by my executors and equally divided amongst all my children and grandchildren as aforesaid.

I hereby nominate and appoint Russel Willett and Beverly Guthrie my executors to this my last will and testament, ratifying and confirming this to be my last will and testament. In witness whereof I have hereto set my hand and seal this 31st July, A. D. 1818.

Signed, sealed and pronounced in presence of
Thos: Ragland
Edmd: (mark) Daughtery

James (mark) Willett

Proved: Nov., 1818
by Thos: Ragland and
E. Daughtery"

(Will Book, Chatham County Courthouse, Pittsboro)

He died before October 6, 1818, when an inventory of his estate was made by B. Guthrie and Russel Willit. A possible list of his children follows. It is also possible that some of these may be brothers, or grandchildren.

1. Dudley: b 1787; m December 13, 1818, Susan Spinks. See next S.1.3.1.

2. Joseph: b abt 1795; m Elizabeth; d May, 1827.

3. Polly: b abt 1797; m abt 1815 Fields (mentioned in father's will, 1818).

4. James (III): b 1799; on February 19, 1820, he purchased 115 acres of land from the estate of his father; d before March 8, 1850; m abt 1828 Rebecca Fields (d 1831). See next S.1.3.4.

5. Charles: b abt 1800; married before 1829 Eleanor (Nelly) Thomason; in February, 1832, Charles purchased from Ruth Dark, for $225.00, 50 acres of land. See next S.1.3.5.

6. Lydia: b abt 1805 (mentioned in father's will, 1818).

7. Ransom: b 1811; m in Chatham County, November 31, 1833, Reany Brown; d fall of 1857. See next S.1.3.7.

S.1.3.1
DUDLEY WILLETT and SUSAN SPINKS
of Chatham County, North Carolina, and Harris County, Georgia

Dudley Willett was born in 1787 in Chatham County, North Carolina. In 1828, he was living in Chatham County, North Carolina.

In 1813, he was a militia man in Captain Gilbert's Morgan County Militia.

In 1813, he was a militia man in Captain William Patrick's Company, 29th Regiment. On July 16, 1814, he was removed from the militia rolls.

In 1815, in Chatham County he was taxed on one white poll. He owned no slaves or real estate.

He married on December 13, 1818, Susan Spinks (b 1794). Thomas M. Moore was a witness to the marriage.

Dudley may have been a minister, or a Justice of the Peace, or magistrate; at least he is recorded as having married couples in 1819, and 1830.

On June 13, 1836, he was one of 38 citizens of Harris, County, Georgia, who petitioned the Governor to provide more defence during the Creek War.

He was living in the Osborn Mill District of Harris County, Georgia in 1850.

1. Martha: b 1820.

2. Tempy: b 1830.

3. Lucinda: b 1835.

4. Raligh: b 1839.

S.1.3.4
JAMES WILLETT and REBECCA FIELDS
of Little Bear Creek, Chatham County, North Carolina

James Willett was born about 1800. On February 19, 1820, he purchased 115 acres of land from the estate of his father.

About 1820, he married Rebecca Fields (d 1831). He may have married a second time.

James Willett lived at Bear Creek in Chatham County. This was most likely in the vincity of the present Edward Hill Friends Church. It is unknown if James Willett was a Quaker. He died before March 8 (May), 1850. Thomas C. Willett was the administrator of his estate.

The following Willetts were mentioned on March 8, 1850, when his estate was inventoried and sold: Sally, Joseph, Sarah, Robert, Rebecca, Joseph, Jame(s) T., and Elizabeth. These are most likely his wife, children, and brothers.

The following deed was made by his children after his death.

> "This Indenture made and entered into this 16th January, 1851, between the heirs at law of James Willit, decd, of the one part, and Thomas C. Willit of the other part, all of the County of Chatham and State of North Carolina (except Orrin Willit and wife Phebe who are residents of Orange County.
>
> Witnessed: that the said heirs hath bargained sold and conveyed unto Thomas C. Willit for and in consideration of the sum of Eighteen dollars per share, the Receipt whereof is hereby duly acknowledged, all their right, title and interest in a certain tract of land, the property of their father whereon he lived and died, on the waters of little Bear Creek in the County and State above mentioned adjoining Josiah Glass, Wm: Andrews and others; and bounded as follows: viz:
>
> Beginning at a pine (Glass's corner), then north fifty four poles to

a dead pine; thence east thirty one poles to a stone pile in an old field; then north crossing the Creek with Rives line eighty seven poles to a post oak Beals corner; thence west his line twenty two poles to a hickory in the creek; thence up the same as it meanders to Andrew's corner; then south 70° west sixty poles to stake (his other corner); thence south one hundred and forty eight poles to Glass's line; thence east his line one hundred and ten poles to the beginning. Containing by estimation one hundred and forty four (144) acres more or less.

To have and to hold the above described tract of land with all and every appurtenance thereunto belonging or in any way appertaining and the said heirs of Thomas Willit decd (sic: should it be James Willit decd?) doth covenant and agree to warrant and defend the title of the above described tract of land against all claim or claims of all persons whatsoever for themselves their heirs and assigns forever unto the said Thomas C. Willit his heirs and assigns.

In testimony whereof they have hereunto set their hands and seals the day and date above written. Signed, sealed in presence of us:

James G. Rives	William (x) Willit
Jos: Benjamin	Sally (x) Willit
	Rebecca (x) Willit
	Joseph J. Willit
Test:	James (x) Willit
Jos: J. Willit	J. J. Goldston
	as agt for John Willit
	Phebe (x) Willit

(Record of Deeds, pages 445-446)

The above Indenture was recorded in Chatham County on December 30, 1885.

1. Orrin: b 1821; m January 19, 1842, Phoebe; removed to Orange County, North Carolina before 1851. See next S.1.3.4.1.

2. William: b abt 1822; possibly the William Willett who married in Orange County, North Carolina on August 18, 1848, Polly Dodd.

3. Sally: b abt 1823.

4. Rebecca: b abt 1824.

5. James: b abt 1825.

6. Joseph J: b 1831; m in Orange County September 4, 1855, Elizabeth Ann Watson. See next S.1.3.4.6.

7. John: b abt 1828.

8. Phebe: b abt 1830.

S.1.3.4.1
ORRIN WALKER WILLET and PHOEBE of Orange County, North Carolina

Orrin Walker Willet was born in 1821 in North Carolina. He married in Chatham County on January 19, 1842, Phoebe (Willett, or possibly Beal). In 1850, they were living in the First District of Orange County. In 1850 and 1860, he listed his occupation as shoemaker. He was living in the Aaron Willett household in 1860 (no wife listed, so possibly Phoebe had died).

When the war came, he enlisted in Company C, 6th Regiment, North Carolina State Troops Infantry.

> He "Resided in Orange County, where he enlisted at age 40, May 1, 1861, for the war. Died at Ashland, Virginia, May 15, 1862, of typhoid pneumonia" (North Carolina Troops, 1861-1865, A Roster, page 305).

(1850, 1860 Orange County census).

1. Joseph: b 1842 in North Carolina. (1850 Orange County census).

2. Julia: b 1844 in North Carolina. (1850 Orange County census).

3. Robert: b 1847 in North Carolina. (1850 Orange County census).

4. Yancy: b 1849 in North Carolina. (1850, 1860 Orange County census).

5. John: b 1854 in North Carolina. (1860 Orange County census).

S.1.3.4.6
JOSEPH J. WILLETT and ELIZABETH ANN WATSON
of Chatham County and Randolph County, North Carolina

Joseph J. Willet was born about 1826, probably in Chatham County. He was a resident of Chatham County. On April 21, 1854, he was the bondsman for the marriage of James A. Turner to Martha Roach. He married in Orange County, North Carolina, on September 4, 1854, Elizabeth Ann Watson (Orange County Marriage Bonds, page 440). His wife was usually called Julia A. When the war came, he joined the Confederate Army.

> (He) "Resided in Randolph County where he enlisted at age 31, July 17, 1862, for the war. Captured at Boonsboro, Maryland, September 15, 1862, and paroled and exchanged at Aiken's Landing, James River, Virginia, November 10, 1862. Died at home on April 16, 1863" (North Carolina Troops, 1861-1865, A Roster, Volume III, page 577).

He died intestate on April 16, 1865. His widow petitioned the County Court for $50.00 North Carolina bounty money, and for his wages due from the Confederate government, it is

of about $60.00. She also requested to keep his carpenter's tools, and for the house and kitchen furniture.

Joseph J. Willet left children, but they were not mentioned in the record.

S.1.3.5
CHARLES WILLETT and ELEANOR THOMAS
of Chatham County, North Carolina, and Monroe County, Georgia

Charles Willett was born in 1800 (or 1801) in Chatham County, North Carolina. He married about 1823 Eleanor Thomas (or Thomason). They lived in Chatham County, North Carolina, until 1833, when they removed to Monroe County, Georgia.

He had various occupations, and had considerable wealth. Eleanor (Thomas) Willett died in 1840, and Charles died in 1866. (The Biographical and Historical Memoirs of Southern Arkansas, 1880, page 345).

1-5: children.

6. Charles: b abt 1829; taken to Monroe County, Georgia, at the age of 4; resided in Upson County, Georgia in 1850. See next S.1.3.5.6.

7. Caswell B: b June 10, 1830, in Chatham County, North Carolina; m 1st December 5, 1850, Emeline Martin (b 1835); m 2d January 12, 1870, Mary Ann Kolb; removed to Pike County, Arkansas, in 1877. See next S.1.3.5.7.

8. Thomas: b abt 1832; killed in the Civil War.

S.1.3.5.6
CHARLES WILLETT of Monroe County and Upson County, Georgia

Charles Willett was born about 1829 in Chatham County, North Carolina. His parents moved to Monroe County, Georgia, in 1833. He must have married about 1851 (wife's name unknown). He is most likely the Charles Willett who is living in Upson County, Georgia, in 1880. The names and ages of the children make it most likely that Caswell and Charles are closely related. (History of Upson County, Georgia; 1880 census, Upson County, Georgia).

1. Emiline (Dora): b 1855. (1880 census, Upson County, Georgia).

2. John: b 1857. (1880 census, Upson County, Georgia).

3. Permelia: b 1859. (1880 census, Upson County, Georgia).

4. William: b 1862. (1880 census, Upson County, Georgia).

5. Martha: b 1864. (1880 census, Upson County, Georgia).

6. Greene: b 1866. (1880 census, Upson County, Georgia).

7. Joshua: b 1868. (1880 census, Upson County, Georgia).

S.1.3.5.7
CASWELL B. WILLETT of Stewart County, Georgia

Caswell B. Willett was born June 10, 1830, in Chatham County, North Carolina; raised in Monroe County, Georgia.His mother died when he was young, and he was raised by his grandmother and an uncle. He married 1st on December 5, 1850, Emeline Martin. In 1851, Emeline Willett joined the Shady Grove Baptist Church, Steward, Georgia, by letter (History of Steward, Georgia, page 164).

Caswell Willett served in the Chatham Flying Artillery from July, 1862, until his disabillity discharge of December 6, 1862. In 1864, he enlisted in Captain Sharp's battalion and served with them until the end of the war. He was in several skirmishes, but no general engagements.

Caswell married 2d on January 12, 1870, Mary Ann Kolb (b 13 Sep 1833, d 16 Dec 1916), the daughter of Harmon Kolb (d 1844) and Elizabeth. In 1877, he removed to Howard County, Arkansas, and then settled permenantly in 1878 in Pike County, Arkansas.

He is described as the oldest son of Joshua Willett who died on a visit to Arkansas. However, in 1880, he stated that his father was Charles Willett of Chatham County, North Carolina, and Monroe County, Georgia. Joshua Willett died January 22, 1903. (History of Steward County, Georgia, page 893; The Biographical and Historical Memoirs of Southern Arkansas, page 345).

1. Charley H: b abt 1853; resident of Pike County, Arkansas, in 1880.

2. Louisa F: b abt 1855; resident of Pike County, Arkansas, in 1880; m 1874, to F. P. Hughes of Pike County.

3. Fannie: b abt 1857; resident of Pike County, Arkansas; m 1881, Mr. J. W. West, of Pike County.

4. Robert C: b abt 1858; resident of Pike County, Arkansas.

5. William S: b abt 1862; resident of Pike County, Arkansas; living near Murfreesboro in 1880.

6. Emeline: b abt 1865; resident of Pike County, Arkansas; m 1884, C. A. Watson of Pike County.

7. Ancil G: b abt 1865; resident of Pike County, Arkansas.

8. Edgar S: b abt 1872.

S.1.3.7

RANSOM WILLET and REANY BROWN of Bear Creek, Chatham County, North Carolina

Ransom Willet was born in 1811 in Chatham County, North Carolina. On November 21, 1833, he married Reany Brown (b 1816). She is variously referred to as Irene, Rany, Reana etc. in the various records.

Ransom Willet owned 405 acres on the waters of Bear Creek, Chatham County, and had a large home that was called locally, "the Mansion House." His home was adjacent to the property of Aaron Moffitt and Atlas J. Gilbert. The exact location of his home is variously described; in 1850, it is in the Upper Regiment; in 1870, in Gulf Township; and in 1880, in Bear Creek Township. Most likely, these descriptions all refer to the same location near the present home of Evans Willett at Bear Creek.

He is in the 1840 and 1850 census. Thomas Willett (b 1825), farmer, and his wife Sarah (b 1834), lived adjacent to the Ransom Willett "mansion house."

In November, 1854, Ransom Willett bought from John M. Jones, etal, for $250.00 on the waters of Bear Creek 243 acres. On November, 1854, he bought from Terrel Brewer for $525.00 on the waters of Bear Creek 163 acres.

Ransom died in the fall of 1857 leaving Reany without any means of support. She petitioned the Court for a division of his estate, and was granted her dower rights to 1/3 of the lands. This land consisted of 243 acres on Bear Creek adjoining the lands of John James. The Court agreed to sell the land at the next term (i.e., summer 1859).

Isaac Patterson had been named administrator of the estate of Ransom Willett; some dispute arose between him and the heirs and he was taken to court. In the petition to the Court, Noah Phillips named the widow Reny (with her dower rights), himself and his wife (Elizabeth Jane Willett), John, and the minor children of Ransom Willett, Dorkas, Mary, Sarah, and William A.

"North Carolina, Chatham County
November Term of the Court of Pleas and quarters, 1858

To the Worshipful Justices of Sd Court:

Isaac Patterson, Admr of Ransome Willet, decd
Versus
John Willet, Noah Phillips and wife Jane, Dorkas, Mary, Sarah
and Wm. A. Willet

Humbly complaining your Petitioner, Isaac Patterson, admr would shew unto your worhsips that at Term 1858 of the County Court of Chatham, he was appointed Admr on the Estate of Ransome Willet, decd.

He would further shew that said Ransom Willet departed this life in the fall of 1857 and left a widow Reny Willet to whom dower in his lands has been assigned by the county Court of Chatham.

Deft Noah Phillips married one. He would shew that of these Defendants Dorkas, Mary, Sarah, and Wm. A. Willett are minors without guardian and he would therefore pray your worships that some s... person be appointed Guardian ad Se... to defend their rights in this Suit. He would shew that he proceeded on his said appointment to collect the debts due ..., to sell the perishable property and to marshall the assets of the estate. That the assets in his hands will be

something over four hundred dollars and the debts and charges for administration will be he believes between eight hundred and one a thousand dollars.

He would shew that the intestate died seized and possessed of a certain tract of land on Bear Creek in said county adjoining the lands of John Jones and others containing about 243 acres, and he would shew that a sale of said lands is necessary to pay the debts and the charges of administration.

He would therefore pray your worships to decree a sale of said land for the purpose aforesaid, and that a copy of this petition issued to Defts with the States writ of Supprend (sic) commanding them to be and appear at the County Court to be held for the County of Chatham on the 2d Monday of Febry next Term and there to plead answer or demur to this Petition. And as is duty bound.

Mekum Sal (sic)

Isaac Patterson makes oath that the facts set forth in the foregoing Petition, he believes to be true. Sworn to this 31d of Jany 1859.

Patterson

Febry Term, 1859: Ordered by the Court that the prayers of the Petition be granted and that the administrator of Ransom Wilet, decd, Isaac Patterson, be appointed Commissioner to sell the lands described in the petition on a credit of Six months after advertizing said sale at the Courthouse door and at four other public pleas in the ... of the land for 20 days ... to next Term."

(Chatham County, Courthouse)

"State of North Carolina

To the Sheriff of Chatham County, Greeting

You are hereby commanded to summon Twelve Freeholders consisted with the parties neither by consanguity or affinity and entirely disinterested who upon oath shall allot and set off by metes and bounds to Rany Willet widow and relict of Ransom Willet deceased one third part of all the lands, tennements, and hinditatments (sic) in said County of which he, the said Ransom Willet died seized and possessed as set forth in her petition for Dower. That is to say three tracts of land lying on the waters of Bear Creek adjoining the lands of Aaron Moffitt, Atlas J. Gilbert, and others, containing four hundred and five acres more or less and Put her in possession of the same including the dwelling house in which her said husband was accustomed to dwell, most generally next before his death, commonly called the mansion house, together with all others, out houses, buildings, and other improvements thereunto belonging or appertaining and make due return to the enxt Term of this County Court of Chatham.

Witness R. C. Cottin, Clerk of the Court of Pleas and quarter sessions the Second Monday of Februy, 1858.

Issued the 26th Februy, A. D. 1858 R. C. Cottin, Clk
By W. Hanks, Dep."

(Chatham County Courthouse)

In December, 1885, the estate of Ransom Willett sold for $500.00 on the waters of Bear Creek 243 acres.

Reana Willett is in the 1860 and 1870 census; now the Willet home is described as being close to Goldston. There is also a Eliza Willett, age 2, and a George Willett, age 6 months, living in the Reana Willett household in 1860. These are the children of her daughter Eliza and Noah Philips and are probably mistakening, are carelessly listed as Willetts. It is curious, but Noah Phillips is listed under the surname Willett in the 1860 census. However, he is properly listed as Phillips in the 1850 census, and in the 1870 census.

Noah Phillips lived across from the present home of Evans Willett.

(1840, 1850, 1860, 1870 Chatham County census).

1. Elizabeth Jane: b July, 1834; m Noah Phillips (b 1831; d 1897; buried in the Edward Hill Friends Cemetery at Bear Creek, Chatham County). In 1860 they are living in the household of Reana Willett. In the 1860 census, he and his family are erroneously listed as Willetts. However, in the 1870 census, he and his family are properly listed as Phillips. In 1910, she is living with her son, L. Preston Phillips (1910 Chatham County census). (1840 Chatham County census). See next S.1.3.7.1.

2. John C: b 1835; m abt 1855 Sarah Ann Stout; sold land in 1868; moved to Alexander County, North Carolina. (1840, 1850 Chatham County census). See next S.1.3.7.2.

3. Dorcas: b 1839. She may be the Darks Willett who married in Chatham County on December 27, 1864, Thomas Beal. (1840, 1850, 1860 Chatham County census).

4. Mary (Maria) J: b 1837. In 1870, 1880, and 1900, she is listed in the household of Noah Phillips as a sister-in-law. In 1910, she is living in the household of her nephew, L. Preston Phillips (1910 Chatham County census). She died at Bear Creek on October 13, 1920 and is buried in the Edward Hill Friends Cemetery at Bear Creek, Chatham County. (1850, 1860, 1870, 1910 Chatham County census).

5. May: b 1843; probably died young. (1850 Chatham County census).

6. Rebecca: b 1845; probably died young. (1850 Chatham County census).

7. Nancy: b 1846. (1850 Chatham County census).

8. Sarah: b 1847. (1850, 1860 Chatham County census).

9. William Armstrong: b in 1850 in Chatham County after the census was taken on November 4, 1850; m January 6, 1870, Sarah A. Williams (also called Elizabeth, Bettie, and Deany; b 1836). (1850, 1860 Chatham County census). See next S.1.3.7.9.

S.1.3.7.1
ELIZABETH JANE WILLETT and NOAH PHILLIPS
of Bear Creek Township, Chatham County, North Carolina

Elizabeth Jane Willett was born in July, 1834. She was raised in a Quaker family, and remained a Quaker all her life.

She married about 1856 Noah Phillips (b 1831; d 1897; buried in the Edward Hill Friends Cemetery at Bear Creek, Chatham County).

In 1860 they are living in the household of Reana Willett. In the 1860 census, he and his family are erroneously listed as Willetts. However, in the 1870 census, he and his family are properly listed as Phillips.

In 1910, she is living with her son, L. Preston Phillips (1910 Chatham County census). She died in 1913 and is buried in the Edward Hill Friends Cemetery at Bear Creek, Chatham County). (1860, 1870, 1910 Chatham County census).

1. Eliza Phillips: b 1858. (1860, 1870 Chatham County census).

2. George Phillips: b 1860. (1870 Chatham County census.

3. Rebecca Phillips: b 1862. (1870 Chatham County census).

4. Mary Phillips: b 1864. (1870 Chatham County census).

5. William Phillips: b 1867. (1800 Chatham County census).

6. L. Preston Phillips: b March, 1876. (1900 Chatham County census).

S.1.3.7.2
JOHN C. WILLETT and SARAH ANN STOUT
of Chatham County and Alexander County, North Carolina

John C. Willett was born in 1835, most likely in Chatham County. He married about 1855 Sarah Ann Stout (b February 22, 1837; d July 14, 1930).

On May 28, 1859, he purchased, for $200.00, 80 acres of land on the waters of Little Brush Creek from Jesse Stout. This land was adjacent to the land of James Gilliland and others. The John C. Willett family is in the 1860 Chatham County census.

On October 1, 1860, he sold the same land to Enoch Brady for $250.00. After selling his land in Chatham County, he removed to Alexander County, North Carolina.

The war was coming on. On April 16, 1862, at Goldston, Chatham County, he was mustered into active Confederate service for a term of enlistment of 3 years.

He was on the muster roll as a private of Company H, 46th North Carolina Infantry for the months of July and August, 1862. The 46th North Carolina was a part of General John R. Cooke's Brigade (the other units were the 15th, 27th, and 48th), which was a part of the 111 Army Corps commanded by Lieutenant General Ambrose P. Hill (the other brigades were MacRae's, Lane's, and Scale's).

John C. Willett was absent sick in September and October, 1862.

He was at home on sick furlough in November and December, 1862.

He received pay through May and June, 1863. He was on the muster roll for March and April, 1864, as under arrest in the regimental guard house charged with desertion. He was

present for duty in May and June, July and August, September and October, and November and December, 1864. He forfeited 18 months pay in lieu of a court martial.

He was captured at Hatchers Run, Virginia, on Aril 1, 1865, and imprisoned at Point Lookout, Maryland. He was still assigned to Company H, 46th North Carolina Regiment, when he was captured. On June 22, 1865, with the war over, he was released at City Point, Virginia. He evidently began the long journey home, but never arrived, nor was he ever heard of again.

Sarah A. Willett, widow of John C. Willett, and a resident of Mooresville, Iredell County, age 74, applied for a Confederate service pension by virtue of her husband's service. Her request was approved by the County Pension Board.

1. Nancy: b 1858. (1860 Chatham County census).

2. William A: b 1859. (1860 Chatham County census).

3. Elizabeth: b 1861; m March 19, 1881, Jerry C. Brewer (b 1861), the son of Wiley and Lucretia Brewer.

4. David Thomas (Tom): b July 26, 1864, in Alexander County, North Carolina; m 1st November 13, 1890, Susie E. Smith; m 2d at Moffitt, Randolph County, on August 23, 1908, Lou Cassie Smith. See next S.1.3.7.2.4

5. Dannl: b March, 1864; m in 1890 Margaret E. Kerber; m 2d November 13, 1939, Mrs. Cora Matheson, age 69. See next S.1.3.7.2.5.

S.1.3.7.2.4

DAVID THOMAS WILLETT and LUCASSIE TEAGUE of High Point, Alexander County

David Thomas (Tom) Willett was born on July 26, 1864, in Alexander County, North Carolina. He married 1st November 13, 1890, Susie E. Smith (b March 4, 1868; d July 5, 1908, age 40 years, 4 months, 1 day).

David Thomas married 2d Lou Cassie Teague (b April 21, 1873; d June 28, 1961). They resided in Statesville and Taylorsville, Alexander County, North Carolina.

David Thomas Willett died on September 6, 1925, and is buried at Shiloh Church, Randolph County, North Carolina.

"David T. Willett Dies at His Home on Hazel Street:

> David T. Willett, well known and highly esteemed High Point citizen, died at his home on Hazel Street, Sunday morning at 9:30 o'clock. His death followed an illness extending over a period of about two years.
>
> Mr. Willett was 61 years of age, having been born in Randolph County on July 26, 1864. He moved to High Point about 12 years ago and during his residence here he made a wide circle of friends. In early manhood the deceased joined the Shiloh Christian Church, Randolph County, but after coming to High Point he moved his membership to the Christian church of this city.
>
> In addition to his widow, who prior to marriage was Miss Lucassie Teague, of Randolph County, Mr. Willett is survived by seven sons and

one daughter: George F. Willett of New Jersey; W. O. Willett, of Reading, Pennsylvania; E. B. Willett, of Brooklyn, New York; E.C. Willett, of Warner, South Dakota; John T. Willett, of Mount Airy, Troy and James Willett, of this city, and Miss Pearlie Lee Willett, of the home place."
(High Point Enterprise, September 7, 1925)

1. George Frank: New Jersey.

2. William Owen: m Laura; living in High Point in 1924; of Reading, Pennsylvania.

3. Elbert B: Brooklyn, New York.

4. Emmett Carl: Werner, South Dakota.

5. John T: b September 1, 1891, in Randolph County; m April 13, 1918, Agnes Elizabeth Gilbert (b September 14, 1899, Patrick County, Virginia; d November 12, 1939); of Mount Airy, North Carolina; d June 2, 1974.

1. John Preston: b May 18, 1920, Surry County, North Carolina.

2. Mary Penelope: b August 21, 1921, Surry County, North Carolina.

3. William Bruce: b December 22, 1922, Surry County, North Carolina.

4. Tommy Elizabeth: b December 2, 1924, Surry County, North Carolina; d February 27, 1965.

5. Nancy Caroline: b January 30, 1928, Guilford County.

6. David Henry: b November 15, 1929, Surry County, North Carolina.

7. Eva Velincia: b April 13, 1934, Surry County, North Carolina; d April 13, 1934.

6. David Troy: b October 12, 1912; m Bertha Wright (d 1981); resided at High Point, North Carolina. See next S.1.3.7.2.4.6.

7. Charlie: b January 10, 1915; d July 14, 1915.

8. James R: High Point, North Carolina.

9. Pearl Lee: High Point, North Carolina; m Hunt; resides in Thomasville.

S.1.3.7.2.4.6
DAVID TROY WILLETT and BERTHA WRIGHT WILLETT of High Point

David Troy Willett was born on October 12, 1912, in Randolph County, North Carolina. He married Bertha Wright (d 1981). They resided at High Point, North Carolina. He died at High Point on March 16, 1981.

"David Troy Willett, 71, of 403 Greer Street died Friday at his home. He was born October 10, 1912, in Randolph County, a son of David Thomas and Lou Cassie Teague Willett. He was employed by Cloverdale Dye Works for 40 years. He was a member of First Church of God. He married Bertha Wright Willett, who died in June 1981.

Surviving are three daughters: Mrs. Marvin (Joann) Emerson of 1103 Tipton Street; Mrs. Drew (Connie) Cherry of Route 3, Trinity; and Mrs. Larry (Donese) Hedrick of 403 Springfield Road; two sons: David G. Willett of 1501 Delk Street, and Larry W. Willett of 624 E. State Street; one sister, Mrs. Pearl Hunt of Thomasville; one brother, James R. Willett of 1900-A Oakview Road; eight grandchildren, and three great grandchildren" (High Point Enterprise, March 17, 1984, page 9A).

1. Joann: m Marvin Emerson of 113 Tipton Street, High Point.

2. Connie: m Drew Cherry.

3. Donese: m Larry Hedrick.

4. David G:

5. Larry W:

S.1.3.7.2.5
DANNL WILLETT of North Carolina

Dannl Willett was born on March, 1864. He married 1st in 1890 Margaret E. Kerber. He married 2d on November 13, 1939, Mrs. Cora Matheson, age 69. (1900 census).

1. Jay Van (Javan): b April, 1899; m in Iredell County on August 5, 1918, Martha. (1900 census).

    1. Henry Boyce: b September 2, 1919, at Mooresville.

    2. Beulah Louise: b October 27, 1921, at Mooresville.

    3. Oscar Lee: b November 8, 1923, at Mooresville.

    4. Howard Roland: b March 4, 1926, at Coddle Creek, Tennessee.

2. Boyce:

3. Bertha: b May, 1891. (1900 census).

4. Mertie M: b April, 1893. (1900 census).

5. Thursday E. (Thursie): b February, 1897. (1900 census).

    1. Varina: b January 21, 1924.

S.1.3.7.9
WILLIAM ARMSTRONG WILLETT and SARAH E. WILLIAMS
of Gulf Township, Bear Creek, Chatham County and Sanford, Lee County

William Armstrong Willett was born in 1850 in Chatham County, North Carolina, after the 1850 census was taken on November 4. He married in Chatham County on January 6, 1870 Sarah E. Williams (b 1850; also called Elizabeth, Bettie, and Deany in 1870), the daughter of Azariah (b May, 1818) and Mahala Williams.

In 1880, they were living in Gulf Township.

William A. Willett died before 1910. (1870, 1880, 1910 Chatham County census).

1. Mary Callie: b September 2, 1871. Mary C. Willett, granddaughter, was living in the Azariah Williams household in 1900; d August 16, 1955, unmarried. She is buried at the Hickory Grove Baptist Churchyard, Chatham County.

2. Stephen Dudley: b January 2, 1873; m Aurelia Pattishall (b August, 1877), the daughter of Nathan and Margaret (Wicker) Pattishall; resided in Sanford; d June 24, 1954, age 81. (1880 Chatham County census).

3. Fanny Jane: b January 7, 1875; m Hatchel (John?) Willett (d before 1964); d March 11, 1964, age 89. (1880 Chatham County census). See next S.1.3.7.9.3.

4. John T: b June 22, 1876. (1880 Chatham County census).

5. Vallie S: b September 17, 1888. Vallie S. Willett, granddaughter, was living in the Azariah Williams household in 1900 (1900 Chatham County census). m Cicero Smith (b October 2, 1871; d August 9, 1916); they were Baptist; d July 23, 1950; buried at the Hickory Grove Baptist Churchyard, Chatham County.

6. Oran Robert: b September 3, 1889; resided in Greensboro. (1910 Chatham County census).

    1. Eugene: resides in Greensboro; lives in the old homeplace.

    2. Otto: resides near the K Mart in Greensboro.

    3. Mary: resides in South Carolina.

    4. Lizabeth:

    5. Frances:

S.1.3.7.9.3

FANNY JANE WILLETT and HATCHEL WILLETT of Chatham County, North Carolina

Fanny Jane Willett was born on January 7, 1875. She married Hatchel (John?) Willett (b January 7, 1875; d before 1964).

She died on March 11, 1964, age 89. She is buried at Sandy Branch Baptist Church. In her death certificate, she is called the widow of Hatchel Willett. (1880 Chatham County census).

1. Herbert K: b March 6, 1893, in Moore County, North Carolina; m Alicia Daisy Pike (b June 2, 1895, in England; d October 16, 1941; buried at Sandy Branch Baptist Church). He was a cotton mill worker in th 1920s; later he farmed. He died on May 28, 1941, while serving as a Private in the 120th Infantry, 30th Division, during the war. He is buried at Sandy Branch Baptist Church.

(He is also called the son of John Willett of Moore County and Sannie V. Willett).

1. Donald: b 1921; m 1942 Sallie Seawell; resides at Route 2, Bear Creek, 27207.

1. Linda Alice: b 1951; resides at Burlington.

2. David: works for Coca Cola in Asheboro.

S.1.7
RUSSELL WILLETT of Chatham County, North Carolina

Russell Willett was born about 1780 (between 1765-1785). Russell Willet purchased for 60 pounds current money on February 13, 1800, 226 acres on the waters of Rocky River on Hartz Creek, Chatham County, North Carolina.

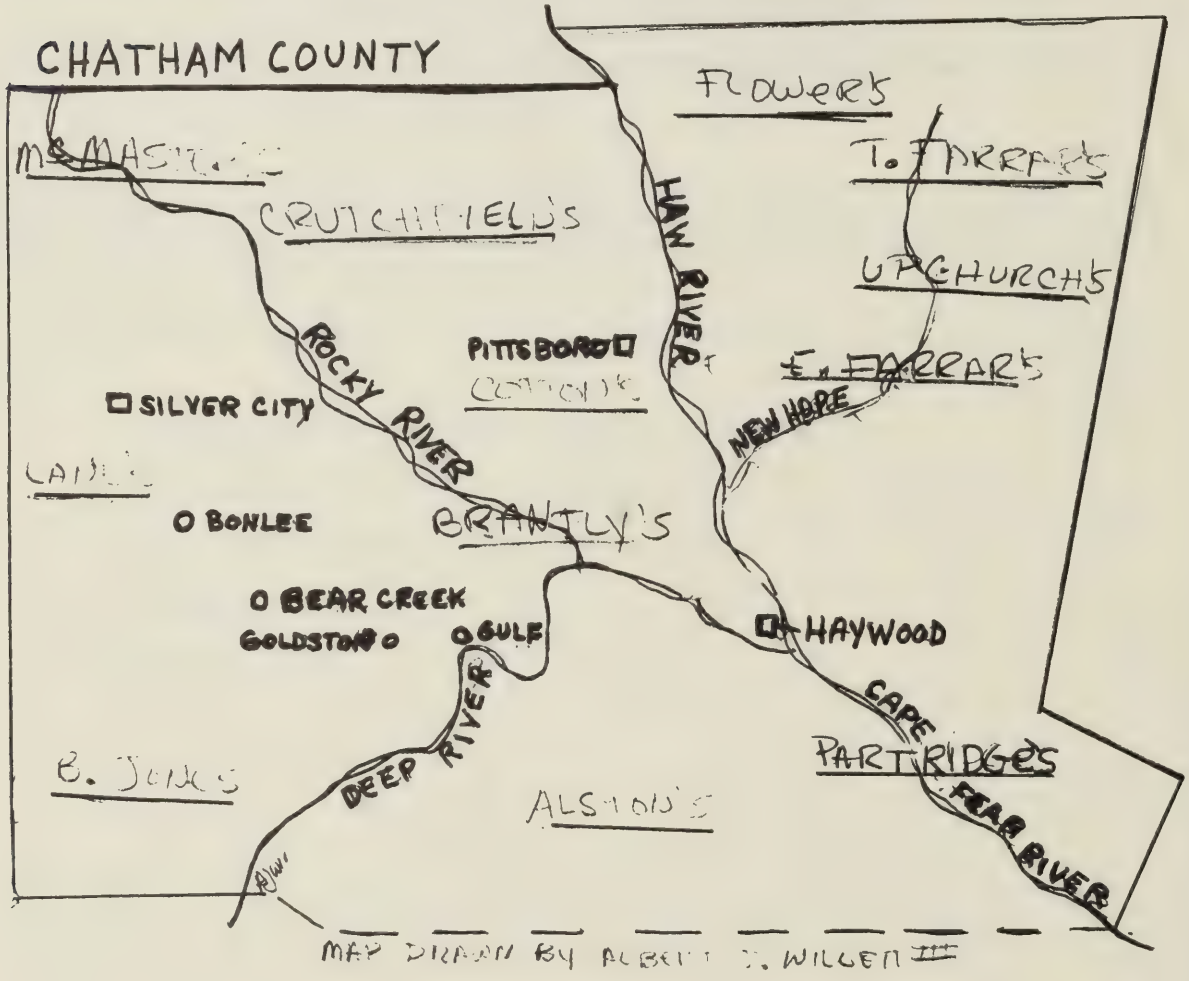
In 1815, Russell is taxed on one white poll and the 226 acres and his residence was valued at $339.00. Bear Creek is a branch of Rocky River which itself empties into Deep Creek. Russell Willet made purchases at the sale of the estate of his brother, James Willet, in 1818. (1810 Chatham County census).

1. (son): b abt 1802 (between 1800-1810). (1810 Chatham County census).

2. (daughter): b abt 1802 (between 1800-1810). (1810 Chatham County census).

3. (son): b abt 1804 (between 1800-1810). (1810 Chatham County census).

4. (son): b abt 1806 (between 1800-1810). (1810 Chatham County census).



S.2

AARON E. WILLET and MARY E. of Bear Creek Township, Chatham County

Aaron E. Willet was born in March 21, 1826, in North Carolina. He and all his children were Quakers, and his affliation with this church separates him and his descendents from the other Willett families of the Bear Creek area.

He married about 1848 Mary E. (b June 13, 1828; d June 27, 1902, age 74 years, 14 days; buried at Edward Hill Friends Cemetery, Chatham County). They lived in the Upper Regiment of Chatham County in 1850.

He was a farmer and a Quaker and a member of the Cane Creek Monthly Meeting. He built the "old" Willett house in 1860. This is presently owned by his grandson, Evans Willett. The Quaker religion has distinguished this family from the other Willett families who live in nearby Gulf, Goldston, and Lemon Springs.

Although he was a Quaker, he was also a soldier during the Civil War.

In 1860, and 1870, he is living near Goldston and adjacent to Reana Willett and her family (the Reana Willet family included the family of her son-in-law, Noah Phillips).

There is a family tradition that he is descended from two brothers, Charles and Thomas Willett who came to Chatham County after the Revolutionary War and took up bounty land. It is reputed that they started walking from Pittsboro towards Deep River and came to a point where one turned right and the other left.

He died on October 15, 1906 and is buried at Edward Hill Friends Cemetery, Chatham County. (1860, 1870, 1880, 1900 Chatham County census).

1. John W: b November, 1853; at school in 1870; remained unmarried. (1860, 1870, 1880, 1900, 1910 census).

2. Thomas Pinkney: b May 30, 1856, at school in 1870; m 1878 Louise Ida (b April, 1859); they resided next to Aaron Willett; d October 30, 1916, buried at Edward Hill Friends Cemetery, Chatham County. (1860, 1870 census). See next S.2.2.

3. Ann Jane: b December 13, 1858; teaching school in 1870; remained unmarried; d August 5, 1908, buried at Edward Hill Friends Cemetery, Chatham County. (1860, 1870 Chatham County census).

4. Rebecca A: b September 30, 1861; at school in 1870; m Cox; d August 7, 1926, buried at Edward Hill Friends Cemetery, Chatham County. (1870, 1880, 1900 census).

5. Aaron: b September 1, 1857; d July 24, 1862. His headstone "Blessed are the early dead." This tombstone is in the "old" Quaker cemetery in the woods across the creek from the Evans Willett property at Bear Creek, Chatham County. Aaron's tombstone is on a slight rise in the woods next to Evans Willett's home. However, there are several (if not many) other graves on the hill. Evidently there were wooden marker and sand stone markers. The sand stone markers have survived with initials scratched on several; most of the sand stone markers have crumbled. (1860 Chatham County census).

6. Emily Rosa: b June 5, 1862; at school in 1870; unmarried; d December 31, 1933; buried at Edward Hill Friends Cemetery, Chatham County. (1870, 1900 Chatham County census).

7. Rosanna: b 1866 (or 1868). (1880 Chatham County census).

8. Ulysses Grant (Ulul G): b February 13, 1866, at Bear Creek Township. In 1910, Ulysses G. Willett was the head of his own household in Bear Creek Township. His brothers, John W. and Thomas P., and his sister, E. Rosa, were living with him (1910 Chatham County census). He remained unmarried; d January 3, 1936; buried at Edward Hill Friends Cemetery, Chatham County. (1870, 1880, 1900, 1910 Chatham County census).

9. Stephen White (Scarbough): b July, 1869; m in 1898 Nellie Trogline (b 1877 in Randolph County). (1870, 1880, 1900 census). See next S.2.9.

S.2.2
THOMAS PINKNEY WILLETT and LOUISE IDA EMERSON
of Gulf Township and Bear Creek Township, Chatham County, North Carolina

Thomas Pinkney Willett was born in May, 1860. He was attending school in 1870. He married in 1878 Louise (Lenida) Ida Emerson (b April, 1859; d 1931; buried at Edward Hill Friends Cemetery, Chatham County); they resided next to Aaron Willett.
(1880, 1900, 1910 Chatham County census).

1. Minnie Roxanna (Roxie): b April, 1878; d 1930; unmarried; buried at Edward Hill Friends Cemetery, Chatham County. (1880, 1900, 1910 Chatham County census).

2. Mary Ella: b November, 1881; d 1933; buried at Edward Hill Friends Cemetery, Chatham County. (1900, 1910 Chatham County census).

3. James Robert: b February 2, 1885; raised in the Quaker faith; m Rosa J. Brewer (b May 2, 1895; d May 26, 1950; buried at Edward Hill Friends Cemetery, Chatham County). (1900, 1910 Chatham County census).

1. Howard:

4. Sarah Josie: b March, 1891. (1900, 1910 Chatham County census).

5. Emma Lavina (Levannie): b March, 1896. (1900, 1910 Chatham County census).

S.2.9
STEPHEN WHITE WILLETT and NETTIE TROGLINE
of Bear Creek Township, Chatham County, North Carolina

Stephen White Willett was born in July 3, 1869, in Chatham County. He was raised in the Quaker faith.

He married in Chatham County in 1898 Nettie Trogline (b May 16, 1877, in Randolph County; d November 21, 1936; buried at Edward Hill Friends Cemetery, Chatham County). They lived in the Edward Hill community and were Quakers. Stephen farmed about 300 acres.

In 1910, they were living in Bear Creek Township. He died on December 19, 1933, and is buried at Edward Hill Friends Cemetery, Chatham County.

(1910 Chatham County census).

1. S. Herbert: b November 25, 1901; m in Chatham County on February 15, 1920, Sue M. Trogline (b August 7, 1900; d April 22, 1970; buried at Edward Hill Friends Cemetery, Chatham County). (1910 Chatham County census).

    1. Ernest:

    2. Hilda:

    3. Hazel:

2. Fannie: b 1906; still living in 1984. (1910 Chatham County census).

3. Evans Ward: b March 8, 1909; married in Chatham County on March 13, 1930, Estie Boyd; lives in the "old" Willett house. (1910 census). See next S.2.9.3.

4. Willett: b July 7, 1911; d November 17, 1914.

5. Annie Belle: b February 17, 1914, at Bear Creek; m White; living 1984.

6. Thomas George: b January 9, 1920, at Bear Creek; m in Chatham County on November 29, 1939, Ruth Philips (b 1921); living 1984.

    1. Dennis Morgan: b March 23, 1942; married.

    2. Frank Wilton: b January 25, 1949, at Matthews; resides in Greensboro.

S.2.9.3

EVANS WARD WILLETT and ESTIE BOYD of Bear Creek, Chatham County, North Carolina

Evans Ward Willett was born on March 8, 1909. He was raised in and has remained faithful to his Quaker faith.

He married in Chatham County on March 13, 1930, Estie Boyd (b 1909). He lives in the "old" Willett house which had been built by his grandfather in 1860. The house has a stone chimney and is built solid with mortise and tendon joints.

Evans was a foreman from 1928 until 1975 at teh Siler City Mill and kept up a fleet of trucks. He describes himself as a "Greasy Mechanic."

There was a cane molasses mill on the Willett property at one time; there was also a tanning mill on the rear of the Willett farm which was run by Thomas Pinkney Willett. (1910 Chatham County census).

1. Stephen Leroy: b June 18, 1935, at Bear Creek, Chatham County; m Rogers; resides at Route 2, Box 401, Siler City, North Carolina, 27344.

    1. Stephen T: b April 16, 1957, at Matthews; m; resides at Siler City, Chatham County.

    2. Teresa R: b January 7, 1961, at Matthews; m Phillips; resides at Chatham County.

2. Harold Boyd: b July 22, 1949, at Matthews, Chatham County; m Sue Parham.

    1. Mannie Sue: b February 18, 1976, in Durham County, North Carolina.

    2. Winnie:

    3. (daughter):

    4. Darren: b December 14, 1968, in Matthews Township, Chatham County, North Carolina.

S.3
CHARLES WILLETT and AMANDA LAWHORN
of Gulf Township, Chatham County, North Carolina

Charles Willett was born in 1824. He married on March 16, 1852, Amanda (Mandy, and sometimes called Sarah) Lawhorn (b 1825 or 1832). In 1860, Charles and family were living in the Western Division, Post Office Goldston; in 1870, they were living in Bear Creek Township. This area is also known as Harpers Crossroads, and Rabbit Crossroads.

Evidently, Mandy died before 1880. In 1870, they lived close to the Reany Willett and Noah Phillips households.

Lee County was formed out of Chatham County and Moore County in 1906. Some of Charles Willett's children moved to the community of Pocket Township which fell in the newly formed Lee County.

Manly Willett is the grandson of Charles Willett.

(1860, 1870, 1880 Chatham County, North Carolina, census).

1. Elizabeth (Mary): b 1854. (1860, 1880 Chatham County census).

2. Decimus: b 1855. (1860 Chatham County census).

3. Ellen (Ella): b 1857; m in Gulf Township, Chatham County on Decmber 9, 1880 Henry Morris (b 1847; he died in the explosion of the Egypt Coal mine before 1924; his 1st son also died in the explosion). (1860, 1870, 1880 Chatham County census).

    1. (son): d in the explosion of the Egypt Coal Mine.

    2. Matthew:

4. Sarah: b 1858. (1870, 1880 Chatham County census).

5. William Allen: b October, 1860; m in Chatham County on September 9, 1882, Martha (Pattie) Causey (b September, 1867); resided in Gulf Township, Chatham County; d April 4, 1924. (1870, 1880 Chatham County census). See next S.3.5.

6. Charles (Carolis) Thomas: b March, 1867; m in Chatham County on September 22, 1889, Mary Causey (b May 26, 1857; d August 27, 1940, age 83), the daughter of Joel Causey and Martha Brewer; d January 4, 1931. (1870, 1880 Chatham County census). See next S.3.6.

7. George: b 1870; George went to live in Georgia; he came back for at least one visit. (1880 Chatham County census).

8? Annie: m George Harvell. The following list of children was given by Blanche Carter Willett.

    1. George Harvell:

    2. Charley Harvell:

    3. Minnie Harvell:

4. Annie Harvell:

5. Betsey Harvell:

6. Martha Harvell:

S.3.5
WILLIAM ALLEN WILLETT of Gulf Township, Chatham County
and Pocket Towship, Lee County, North Carolina

William Allen Willett was born in October, 1860, at Harper's Crossroad (also known as Rabbit's Crossroad) at Bear Creek, Chatham County.

He married 1st in Chatham County on September 9, 1882, Martha (Pattie) Causey (b September, 1867); Martha Causey was a sister of Mary Causey who married William Allen's brother Charles. They lived in Gulf Township, Chatham County. Martha Causey died in either 1905 or 1906 when her son W. D. was nine.

William Allen Willett m 2d in Chatham County on April 4, 1908, Fannie J. Fields (b 1865). In 1910, they were living in Pocket Township, Lee County, North Carolina.

He died on April 4, 1924. (1870, 1880, 1900 Chatham County census; 1910 Pocket Township, Lee County census).

1. Nanna B: b August, 1886; m Jeff Oldham; d January 15, 1951; buried in a family plot at the Bethelem Methodist Church, SR 1001, Lee County). (1900 Chatham census).

1. Marie Oldham:

2. J. D. Oldham:

3. Frank Oldham:

4. Carl Oldham: died in service during World War II.

5. Alvis Oldham:

2. John Thomas: b 1886; m in Lee County on November 29, 1922, Ellen Brewer. (1900 Chatham County census).

1. Willett: b December 3, 1923, in West Pocket, Lee County.

3. Alexander: b April 25, 1887; m Mary Etta Oldham (b September 2, 1871; d May 31, 1938; buried in a family plot at the Bethelem Methodist Church, SR 1001, Lee County). (1900 Chatham County census; 1910 Pocket Township, Lee County census).

1. Clarence: b April 24, 1913; d January 3, 1948; buried in a family plot at the Bethelem Methodist Church, SR 1001, Lee County.

2. Elera (Ellen): no date; buried in a family plot at the Bethelem Methodist Church, SR 1001, Lee County.

3. Archie Millard: b 1911; d 1912; buried in a family plot at the Bethelem Methodist Church, SR 1001, Lee County.

4. Gertrude: b October 3, 1915, in West Sanford, Lee County; d 1982, in Durham.

5. William Homer: b August 29, 1923; d July 17, 1943; buried in a family plot at the Bethelem Methodist Church, SR 1001, Lee County.

6. Mattie Inez: b January 9, 1925, Sanford, Lee County.

4. Martha: b January, 1890; unmarried. (1900 Chatham County census; 1910 Lee County census).

5. George Monroe: b January, 1893. (1900 Chatham County census; 1910 Lee County census).

1. Robert: lived in Virginia.

2. Hubert: lived in Charlotte, North Carolina.

6. William D: b July 3, 1896; resides in Goldston, Chatham County; m December 28, 1930, Blanche Carter (b 1909). (1900 Chatham County census; 1910 Lee County census). See next S.3.5.6.

7. Amanda: b June, 1898; m Wilbur Oldham. (1900 Chatham County census; 1910 Lee County census).

1. Conrad Oldham:

2. O'Dell Oldham:

3. Herman Oldham: of West End.

4. Talman (Talmage) Oldham: of Corbinton.

5. Roger Oldham: of Sanford.

6. Thelma Oldham: of Route 1, Goldston.

8. Joseph: b 1904.

9. Ruth: d when she was 5 years old.

10. Joe Wiley: b 1907; m in Lee County on September 19, 1936, Annie Holder (b 1909); buried in Liberty, North Carolina.

11. Magdeline: lived 6 weeks; her mother died in childbirth carrying her.

12. Stella: b November 13, 1909, near Gulf Township; m Wilcox.

S.3.5.6
WILLIAM DAVID WILLETT and BLANCHE CARTER
of Gulf Township, Chatham County, North Carolina

William David Willett was born on July 3, 1896. He was a PFC in the 213 MP Company during World War I.

He married on December 28, 1930, Blanche Carter (b February 28, 1909), the daughter of John and Florence Carter of Yakin County, North Carolina.

William David died on April 19, 1968, and is buried in the Bethelem Church Cemetery.

Blanche is a great Bingo player.

1. John Gilbert: b at West Pocket, Lee County; m Barbara Shaw; resides in Richmond, Virginia.

    1. Johnnie: b September 4, 1964.

2. William (Bill) David, Jr: b March 10, 1932, at West Pocket, Lee County; m Ann Beal; resides in Cummock, North Carolina.

    1. David: b 1962.

3. Robert Ernest: b July 27, 1935; m Francis Oldham; resides in Gulf.

    1. Ronnie: b March 23, 1963.

    2. Carrie: b August 13, 1966.

    3. Randy: b March 25, 1975.

4. Ralph Carter: resides in Siler City, Chatham County; m Jessie Lee Fogleman.

    1. Timothy: b April 2, 1966.

    2. Ryan: b 1971.

S.3.6
CHARLES WILLETT and MARY CAUSEY
of Gulf Township, Chatham County, and Pocket Township, Lee County, North Carolina

Charles (Carolis) Thomas Willett was born in March, 1867. He married in Chatham County on September 22, 1889, Mary (Martha) Causey (b May 26, 1857; d August 27, 1940, age 83), the daughter of Joel Causey and Martha Brewer. In 1900, they were living in Gulf Township, Chatham County; and Elizabeth Lawhorn, aunt, was living with them.

Before 1910, they moved to Pocket Township, Lee County. At the time of his death, on January 4, 1931, they were living in West Pocket, Lee County. (1900 Moore County census; 1910 Lee County census).

1. Kate: b February, 1885. (1900 Moore County census).

2. John Thomas: b December 30, 1887; m November 29, 1922, Ellen Brewer (b 1895); d August 12, 1956, age 64).

3. Harvey Lee: b May 10, 1890, in Chatham County; m Rachel Lawthorn; of Deep River, Lee County; served in World War I; d June 27, 1946. (1900 Moore County census; 1910 Lee County census). See next S.3.6.3.

4. Nancy (Nannie): b July, 1892; m Yow. (1900 Moore County census; 1910 Lee County census).

5. Ruth: b September, 1893; m Tippit. (1900 Moore County census; 1910 Lee County census).

6. Clem Wright: b July 2, 1897; raised in Gulf; d in Lexington, North Carolina; m Lois Shaw; d October 3, 1954; buried in a family plot at the Bethelem Methodist Church, SR 1001, Lee County. (1900 Moore County census; 1910 Lee County census).

7. Hugh Belford (Hew): b 1899; m April 8, 1917, Annie Lucille Hardin (b 1899). (1910 Lee County census). See next S.3.6.7.

S.3.6.7
HUGH BELFORD WILLETT and ANNIE LUCILLE HARDIN of Lee County

Hugh Belford (Hew): b 1899; m April 8, 1917, Annie Lucille Hardin (b 1899). (1910 Lee County census).

1. Charles Millard: b February 21, 1918.

2. Margy: b abt 1920.

3. Virginia: b May 7, 1922.

4. Roy Wilson: b April 23, 1924.

5. (child): b March 24, 1927; possibly an infant death.

6. (child): b January, 1929, possibly an infant death.

S.3.6.3

HARVEY LEE WILLETT and RACHEL LAWTHORN of Pocket, Lee County, North Carolina

Harvey Lee Willett was born on May 10, 1890, in Chatham County. He married on April 24, 1919, Rachel Lawthron. Harvey Lee served in World War I.
He died on June 27, 1946. (1900 Moore County census; 1910 Lee County census).

1. Kemp: b January 22, 1919, in Pocket, Lee County.

2. Mary Kate: b July 24, 1921, in Pocket, Lee County.

3. Max Smith: b June 22, 1923, in West Pocket; m Edna C. (b June 17, 1924); buried at the United Methodist Church, Lemon Springs, Lee County.

4. James R: b July 3, 1925, in West Pocket, Lee County.

5. Sylvia: b November 17, 1927, in West Pocket, Lee County.

6. Harvey Mills: b March 8, 1932; joined the Army; he was a PFC when he died on September 14, 1952, age 20, in a car wreck.

7. Phebe Ann: b October 28, 1937, in Jonesboro.

8. John Ed Lloyd: b June 12, 1939, in Jonesboro.

9. Andy Eli: b December 9, 1941, at Deep River; m in Lee County on November 4, 1967, Judith Truelove (b 1943).

S.4
THOMAS WILLETT of Chatham County, North Carolina

Thomas Willett resided in Chatham County. He is not obviously mentioned in any of the census records. He was married an left a widow in 1853.

Thomas Willett died intestate before November 11, 1853. John A. White was the administrator of his estate. The following Willetts were mentioned in the settlement of that estate: William Willett, Aaron Willett, and Ransom Willett. Most likely these were close relatives, and possibly brothers to Thomas.

S.5
JAMES WILLETT and JULIA
of the Eastern District, Larrence, Chatham County, North Carolina

James Willett was born about 1830. He married about 1850 Julia. In 1860, he was living in the Eastern District, Larrance, Chatham County. (1860 census).

1. Mary: b 1854. (1860 census).

2. Sarah: b 1856. (1860 census).

3. Martha: b 1859. (1860 census).

S.6
JAMES WILLETT of Chatham County, North Carolina

James Willett lived in Chatham County. He died before May, 1850. Thomas C. Willett was the administrator of his estate.

The following Willetts were mentioned when his estate was inventoried and sold: Sally, Joseph, Sarah, Robert, Rebecca, Joseph, Jame(s) T., and Elizabeth. These are most likely his wife, children, and brothers.

S.7
JAMES WILLIT of Pittsboro, Chatham County, North Carolina

James Willit was born in 1824 in North Carolina. He married about 1848 Mary (b 1827). In 1850, they lived in the Upper Regiment of Chatham County. In 1860, the same area was a part of Pittsboro Township.

(1850, 1860 Chatham County, census).

1. Sarah: b May or June, 1850. (1850 Chatham County, census).

2. James E: b 1853. (1860 Chatham County, census).

3. Rachel A: b 1859. (1860 Chatham County, census).

4. Mary S: b 1859. (1860 Chatham County, census).

S.8
WILLETT of Gulf Township, Bear Creek, Chatham County, North Carolina

There was a Willett family living at Bear Creek, Chatham County, early in the 1800s. The following 2 children definitely belong to the same family.

1. Sarah (Sallie) A: b April 13, 1824; d September 6, 1900, buried in the Meroney Methodist Churchyard; Chatham County, North Carolina. (1880 Chatham County census).

2. Thomas C: b 1828; m October 1, 1855, Mary Elkins (b 1822); d 1861. See next S.8.2.

S.8.2
THOMAS C. WILLETT and MARY ELKINS of Gulf Township, Chatham County, North Carolina

Thomas C. Willett was born in 1828. In 1850, he is living with his sister, Sarah, (Sallie; b April 13, 1824; d September 6, 1900, buried in the Meroney Methodist Churchyard) and next to Ransom and Reana Willet of Bear Creek and it is likely that they are related. In 1850, this area is called the Upper Regiment of Chatham County.

He married in Chatham County on October 1, 1855, Mary Elkins.

A Rebecca Willett, age 44, was living with them and may have been his mother.

A Betsey Willett, age 26, lived next door in the Owen Evans household.

A Rebecca Willett, age 33, was listed as the head of the next household, with several Beal children and Patsy Beal living with her. Rebecca was probably the mother of James M. Willet, age 5, who is listed as being in her household.

This is the same Thomas Willett who is listed as Thomas C. Willet, age 32, living close to Pittsboro in 1860. His sister, Sarah Willet (b 1824), age 35, is living in his household as a "domestic."

Thomas Willett died before April 16, 1861, leaving his wife Mary A., widow. The County Court granted her the following provisions: 25 barrels corn; 700 pounds of bacon: all fodder on hand; 70 bushels wheat; 100 pounds of lard; and 20 dollars cash. Children are mentioned in this record, but are not named.

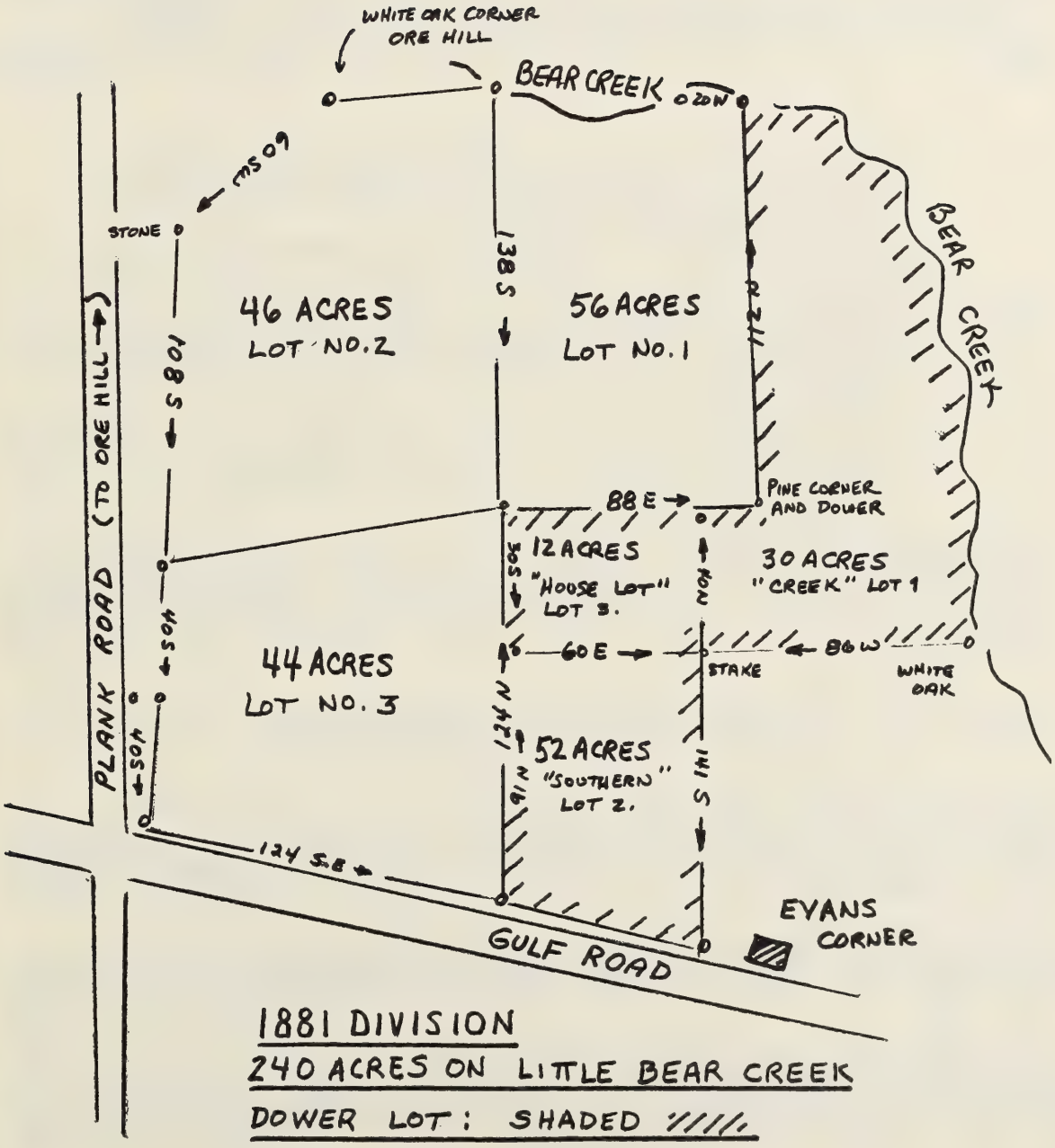
In 1870, Mary Willett is listed as the head of the household. Sarah Willett, sister-in-law, is still living in the (now) Mary Willett household.

In 1880, the Mary Willett household is described as being in Gulf Township.

1. Sarah F: b 1857; received lot 2 (46 acres) in 1881, and lot 1 (56 acres) in 1885. (1860, 1880 Chatham County census).

2. John D: b July 23, 1858; m in Chatham County on December 20, 1882, Elizabeth Ann Ray (b 1864). (1860, 1870, 1880 Chatham County census). See next S.8.2.2.

3. Mary (Mollie) D: b March, 1860; m in Chatham County on December 22, 1880, James R. Womble (b 1839); received lot 1 (56 acres) on April 2, 1881, from her father's estate; received an additional Creek Lot (30 acres) on January 15, 1885; d in Florida. (1860, 1870, 1880 Chatham County census).



1881 DIVISION

240 ACRES ON LITTLE BEAR CREEK

DOWER LOT: SHADED ////.

S.8.2.2

JOHN DANIEL WILLETT and ELIZA ANN RAY of Bear Creek, Chatham County

John Daniel Willett was born on July 23, 1858, at Bear Creek, Chatham County. He married in Chatham County on December 20, 1882, Elizabeth Ann Ray (b March, 1864).

In 1900 and 1910, their farm is described as being in Gulf Township, Bear Creek, Chatham County. He was a cotton farmer, a 33rd degree Mason, the superintendent of Sunday School at Meroney's Methodist Church, and a Bank Director in Goldston.

John Daniel Willett died on September 20, 1936. Both are buried at Meroney's Methodist Churchyard. There is a stained glass window in the church dedicated to John Daniel's memory.

> "I, J. D. Willett, of the aforesaid County and State, being of sound mind, but considering the uncertainty of my earthly existence, do make and declare this my last will and testament ..."
>
> Second: mentions all real estate to wife Eliza; then to heirs; mentions some heirs: J. T. Willett, M. W. Willett, J. V. Willett, A. F. Willett;
>
> Third: mentions following heirs: Allen Willett, R. C. Willett, Mrs. Mary Cromer, Mrs. Carrie Saunders, Mrs. Eliza Hartsell, Mrs. Hilda Hargrove.
>
> Fourth: wife Eliza executrix.
>
> January 4, 1933.
>
> J. D. Willett
>
> (Record of Wills, Chatham County, Will Book "J" pages 153-155)

1. James Thomas: b November, 1883, at Bear Creek, Chatham County, North Carolina; m Eula Mae Haizlip (b 1888, Grand Island, Florida); of Takoma Park, Maryland. Eula Mae Haizlip was a normal school graduate, and a teacher. (1900 Chatham County census). See next S.8.2.2.1.

2. Mary C: b August, 1895, at Bear Creek, Chatham County, North Carolina; m Sam Cromer; of Jackson, Mississippi. (1900, 1910 Chatham County census).

    1. Mary Sue Cromer: b at Jackson, Mississippi.

3. Allen H: b March, 1889, at Goldston, Chatham County; married at Chatham County, North Carolina, on September 3, 1911, Ola Maie White (b abt 1893 in Kimbolton, Chatham County). (1900 Chatham County census). See next S.8.2.2.3.

4. Mark Wade: b April, 1885, at Bear Creek, Chatham County, North Carolina; m Bessie Dark; of Bear Creek, Chatham County, North Carolina. (1900 Chatham County census). See next S.8.2.2.4.

5. Joseph (Joe) Vann: b March 25, 1887, at Bear Creek, Chatham County, North Carolina; of Bear Creek, Chatham County, North Carolina; m August 17, 1919, Cora L. Dowd (b 1900); d February 21, 1950; Joseph is buried at Meroney's Methodist Churchyard. (1900, 1910 Chatham County census). See next S.8.2.2.5.

6. Austin: b September 23, 1891, at Bear Creek, Chatham County, North Carolina; m Callie Brooks (b December 31, 1897); of Bear Creek, Chatham County, North Carolina. (1900, 1910 Chatham County census). See next S.8.2.2.6.

7. Frank R: b January, 1893, at Bear Creek, Chatham County, North Carolina; died in World War I; he is buried in Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, Virginia. (1900, 1910 Chatham County census).

8. Ann Eliza: b November 21, 1901, at Bear Creek, Chatham County, North Carolina; m October 31, 1925, A. D. Hartsell; of Pittsboro, North Carolina. (1910 Chatham County census).

1. Douglas Hartsell: b at Pittsboro.

2. Gene Hartsell: b at Pittsboro; lives in Henderson, North Carolina.

3. Harry Hartsell: b at Pittsboro; ;ives in Henderson, North Carolina.

9. Hilda Alice: b November 30, 1909, at Gulf Township, near Bear Creek, Chatham County, North Carolina; m Curry C. Hargrove; of 1402 Hawthorn Lane, Burlington, North Carolina. She is a member of the Order of the Eastern Star. (1910 Chatham County census).

10. Carrie W. Byrd: b July 25, 1899, at Bear Creek, Chatham County; m 1st Marvin Saunders, a railroad conductor; m 2d Jimmie Byrd, a pharmcist; lived in Washington, D. C; d April 10, 1965; buried at Meroney Methodist Churchyard. (1900, 1910 Chatham County census).

11. Robert Clarence: b June 12, 1897, at Gulf Township, near Bear Creek, Chatham County, North Carolina; m November 11, 1926, Bronna B. Straughton; resides at the old home place at Bear Creek, Chatham County, North Carolina. (1900, 1910 Chatham County census). See next S.8.2.2.11.

S.8.2.2.1
JAMES THOMAS WILLETT and EULA MAE HAIZLIP
of Bear Creek, Chatham County, North Carolina

James Thomas Willett was born in November, 1883, at Bear Creek, Chatham County, North Carolina. He married in 1914 Eula Mae Haizlip (b December 3, 1888, Grand Island, Florida); of Takoma Park, Maryland. Eula Mae (Haizlip) Willett was a normal school graduate, and a teacher.

1. James Howell: b September 17, 1914, at Birmingham, Alabama; graduate in 1935 from North Carolina State University, Raleigh, North Carolina; m June 18, 1938, Vivian Elizabeth Smith. James Howell Willett is a Captain USN (Retired). They reside at 2804 Liberty Place, Bowie, Maryland, 20715.

1. Carole Ann: b September 29, 1946, at Washington, D. C; graduate of Frostburg State University, Frostburg, Maryland; a teacher; m James Hutchinson (b 1945); resides at Davidsonville, Maryland.

1. Kirk Hutchinson: b 1975 at Cheverly, Maryland.

2. Cara Hutchinson: b 1977 at Cheverly, Maryland.

2. Robert Earl: b June 15, 1916, at Bear Creek, North Carolina; m 1st in 1938 Lucy Lee Brown (d 1957); m 2d Ruby Wingo of Atlanta, Georgia; no issue. She is a Law School Graduate.

1. Robert Earl, Jr: b 1941 at Washington, D.C; graduate of University of Georgia; Masters, Columbia University; m 1st Margaret Morrow (divorced); no issue. He is President of R. E. Willett, Associates, of Houston, Texas.

2. Nancy Peyton: b 1946, at Washington, D. C; m 1st Jerry Gresham (divorced); m 2d Michael Watson; resides in San Diego.

1. David Gresham:

2. Aaron Watson:

3. Mae Marguerite: b September 28, 1920, in Raleigh, North Carolina; m Albion Jenkins; graduate of Wesleyan University; Masters from University of Iowa; senior executive; Vice-President Prudential Insurance Company; resides at 25 Oswego Lane, Short Hills, New Jersey.

1. Richard Jenkins: b 1956; graduate of Occidental College in Los Angeles; m Susan Stokes, of Portland, Oregon; a graduate of Occidental College in Los Angeles; resides in Los Angeles. Richard Jenkins is a journalist.

S.8.2.2.3
ALLEN WILLETT and OLAE MAIE WHITE of Chatham County, North Carolina

Allen Willett was born in 1888 at Goldston, Chatham County. He married Ola Maie White (b 1893 Kimbolton, Chatham County; will dtd February 8, 1963). They began using "Willette" as their surname.

> "I, Ola Mae Willette (sic), of the County of Chatham and State of North Carolina ..."
> Item 2: mentions children: Daniel Frank Willette, Rudolph Clayton Willette, Dorothy Willette Holt, Eliza Willette Johnson, Jessie Willette Stone, Mary Willette Deaton, in equal shares ...
> dated February 8, 1963

1. Dorothy Alene: b 1913 in Chatham County; m abt 1935 Wade Alsan Holt (b 1908); resides in Guilford County, North Carolina.

1. Brenda Joyce Holt: b April 12, 1946 (birth recorded in Chatham County, North Carolina).

2. Rudolph Clayton: b March 13, 1915; m at Danville, Virginia Pearl Routh (b August 24, 1915). See next S.8.2.3.2.

3. Mary Frances Burke: b March 4, 1919, at Hickory Mount, Chatham County.

4. Leslie Long: b June 17, 1921, at Matthews, Chatham County.

5. Daniel Frank:

    1. Edwin Eugene: b August 26, 1940, at Matthews, Chatham County.

    2. Susan Gail: b February 18, 1956, at Matthews, Chatham County.

6. Eliza May: b June 3, 1926, at Matthews, Chatham County; m Johnson.

7. Jessie: m Stone.

8. Mary: m Deaton.

S.8.2.2.3.2
RUDOLPH CLAYTON WILLETT and PEARL ROUTH
of Matthews, Chatham County, North Carolina

Rudolph Clayton Willett was born on March 13, 1915, in Chatham County, North Carolina. Rudolph married at Danville, Virginia, about 1936, Pearl Gladys Routh (b August 24, 1915). Rudolph Clayton was always known as Rudolph, never by his middle name Clayton. On his birth certificate he is listed as Clayton Rudolph. (The Rouths of Randolph County, North Carolina, page 129).

1. Rudolph Clayton: b July 4, 1938, at Matthews Township, Chatham County; m Joyce Jordan. (The Rouths of Randolph County, North Carolina, page 130).

    1. Tony Keith: b October 28, 1958, at Matthews Township, Chatham County.

2. James Ronald: b August 29, 1940, in Chatham County; m Vernece Leach, the daughter of Jim Leach. (The Rouths of Randolph County, North Carolina, page 130).

3. Emma Jean: b June 15, 1942, at Matthews Township, Chatham County; m Willie Brafford, the son of Howard Brafford. (The Rouths of Randolph County, North Carolina, page 130).

    1. Donald Lynn Brafford: b April 20, 1961.

    2. Carla Dawn Brafford: b April 30, 1962.

    3. Pamela Yevette Brafford: b December 11, 1964.

    4. Gregory Dean Brafford: b May 6, 1970.

4. Willie (Billy) Joe: b August 16, 1944, at Bennett, Matthews Township, Chatham County; m Dianne Skyrum; resides in Randolph County, North Carolina. (The Rouths of Randolph County, North Carolina, page 130).

1. Hope Dianne: b December 9, 1974.

2. Heather Jo: b July 16, 1976.

5. Doris Elaine: b March 30, 1946, at Matthews Township, Chatham County; m Harold Welch, the son of Newby Welch. (The Rouths of Randolph County, North Carolina, page 130).

1. Angeline Faith Welch: b December 24, 1965.

2. Alisa Dale Welch: b July 29, 1969.

6. Ila Marie: b January 30, 1949, at Chatham County; m Larry Mendenhall. (The Rouths of Randolph County, North Carolina, page 130).

1. Scott Clayton Mendenhall: b October 3, 1973.

2. Mark Thomas Mendenhall: b July 1, 1977.

S.8.2.2.4
MARK WADE WILLETT and BESSIE DARK
of Bear Creek, Chatham County, North Carolina

Mark Wade Willett was born on April 17, 1885, at Bear Creek, Chatham County, North Carolina. He married at Chatham County on September 6, 1908, Bessie Dark (b January 18, 1886; d October 11, 1962; buried Sandy Branch Baptist Church, Chatham County). They resided at Bear Creek, Chatham County, North Carolina, and at Hickory Mount Township. Mark Willett died on August 18, 1959, and is buried at Sandy Branch Baptist Church, Chatham County. (1910 Chatham County census).

1. John Daniel: b at Bear Creek, Chatham County, North Carolina; reside in Greensboro, North Carolina.

2. William Mark (Billy): b July 26, 1921, at Bear Creek, Chatham County, North Carolina; served in the navy in World War I; deceased before 1984.

3. Wade W: b August 14, 1909, at Bear Creek, Chatham County, North Carolina; d August 26, 1975; buried Sandy Branch Baptist Church, Chatham County. (1910 Chatham County census).

S.8.2.2.5
JOSEPH VANN WILLETT and CORA L. DOWD
of Bear Creek, Chatham County, North Carolina

Joseph (Joe) Vann Willett was born on March 25, 1887, at Bear Creek, Chatham County, North Carolina. He resided at Bear Creek. He was a private in World War I. He married Cora L. Dowd. Joseph died on February 21, 1950 and is buried in Meroney's Methodist Churchyard.

His will is dated March 18, 1949.

"I, Joseph Vann Willett, of the County and State aforesaid, do hereby make, declare, and publish my last will and testaement as follows:

Item 1: It is my will and desire that all my just debts, including my funeral expenses, be paid by my executor hereinafter named from the first money coming into my estate.

Item 2: I give and devise to my beloved wife, Core Lee Willett, all my real estate to have and to hold for and during the term of her natural life; my wife shall have the right and priviledge to cut, saw or sell from my land any saw timber. Upon the death of my wife, said property shall go to my four children, namely: Evageline Casey, LeRoy Willett, Clifton Reed Willett, and Mary Alice Glosson, share and share alike.

Item 3: All the remainder of my property of every kind and description, I give and bequeath to my said wife with the priviledge for her to use or dispose of same as she sees fit; however, such property as may be left remaining at the time of her death shall be divided equally among my said four children.

Item 4: If any of my children die before their mother or before me, then it is my desire that the share of such child shall go to his or her issue if any there be.

Item 5: I name and appoint my beloved wife, Cora Lee Willett, as executrix to this my will.

Witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal to this my last will and testament, on this 18th day of March, 1949."

(Record of Wills, Chatham County, Will Book, pages 289-290)

1. Ada Evangeline: b September 27, 1920, at Gulf Township, Chatham County, North Carolina; m Casey; resides at Liberty, North Carolina.

2. Leroy: b abt 1922.

3. Clifton Reed: resides at Matthews Townunty.

    1. Linsay Reid: b July 28, 1947.

    2. Larry Carl: b September 19, 1948.

4. Mary Alice: m Glosson.

S.8.2.2.6
AUSTIN FLINT WILLETT and CALLIE BROOKS
of Bear Creek, Chatham County, North Carolina

Austin Flint Willett was born on September 23, 1891, at Gulf Township, Chatham County, North Carolina. He married about 1915 Callie Brooks (b December 31, 1897, in Chatham County). They resided at Bear Creek, Chatham County, North Carolina.

He died on May 27, 1963, and is buried in the Sandy Grove Baptist Churchyard at Bear Creek, Chatham County, North Carolina. His wife will be buried beside him.

1. Ruby: b October 30, 1919.

2. Theron Austin: b September 18, 1923; m Hilda Willett (no relation); resides in Matthews Township, Chatham County, North Carolina.

    1. Linda Sue: b June 30, 1949, in Matthews Township.

    2. Debra June: b September 11, 1954, in Matthews Township.

3. William C: b November 27, 1926, in Gulf Township.

4. Viringia.

5. Betty Jean (male): b March 17, 1932, at Bear Creek Township.

6. Willett (female): b September 19, 1939, in Matthews Township.

S.8.2.2.11
ROBERT CLARENCE WILLETT and BRONNA B. STRAUGHAN
of Bear Creek, Chatham County, North Carolina

Robert Clarence Willett was born on June 12, 1897, at Bear Creek, Chatham County, North Carolina. Robert lives on the old Willett plantation. His father lived in an old two story house which had burned in 1915. This house may have been built before the Civil War. Robert helped his father built the present house on the site of the old house. After the original Willett house burned, Robert and his father lived in the old shed until the "new" house was completed.

1. Howard: owns H. H. Willett, Inc., on Highway 421, Sanford, Lee County, North Carolina; m Jane.

    1. Howard Jr: a bank president in Sanford, Lee County.

        1. Stephanie L: b June 7, 1976, in Lee County, North Carolina.

        2. Kristine Suzanne: b November 1, 1980, in Lee County.

2. Robert K: b August 18, 1952.

S.9
WILLIAM WILLETT and NANCY COGGINS
of Pocket Township, Lee County, North Carolina
(before 1908 part of Chatham County)

The earliest settler in the Greenwood area of Lee County was Gilbert Buie who entered his patent in 1755. Afterward, many Scotch Highlanders came and settled in the region of the Cape Fear River and Deep River, well before the American Revolution.

(James) William Willett was born on April 6, 1818, in Chatham County, North Carolina. It is not known who his parents were, or when he first came and settled at the spot east of McDuffy's Mill which would later become known as Tramway. However, he was one of the earliest settlers at Tramway. Tramway was originally a road made of split planks running from Sanford down to the Moore County seat at Carthage.

William Willett married about 1840 Nancy Coggins (b 1820; d February 24, 1900, age 70; buried at the United Methodist Church, Lemon Springs, Lee County). In 1850, they lived in (what was then called) the Upper Regiment of Chatham County. He was a farmer. About this time, there was much road building activity in the area. The main East-West road ran well south of Tramway and connected Cheraw, South Carolina, to Greenwood (now Lemon Springs) and on east to the present Carolina Trace. The Conner Road connected the Deep River, and Gulf areas, and ran south and connected to the Fayetteville Plank Road. The reason these were plank road is that a sand road was too soft for most commerce to travel. Great herds of cattle would be driven along these roads passing through the area on their way to Fayetteville.

William Willett acquired the old Willett plantation, and possibly built the old Willett house before the Civil War which fronts on Willett Road. At one time, there was a family graveyard on the plantation, but William Willett and his son, John A. Willett, were associated with the newly formed Grace Chapel Church, and the coffins from this old family graveyard were taken up and reinterred in the Churchyard.

> "Most earned their living as farmers. At first, most of that which was grown was food fiber for the home, cotton and flax became cash crops after new processing methods were developed. Tar and turpentine and hides became sources of income to many. Furs were shipped to Fayetteville, and there were packs of wolves as late as the 1820s. Bounties were paid by the county for wolf ears, and for panther and wildcat as well.
>
> Foods consisted of fresh vegetables in season, and these were preserved for the Winter by drying or pickling. Almost all early records and letters on the subject speak of apple, peach, and pear trees, and there was an abundance of grapes and persimmons growing wild.
>
> At first wild gane was the main source of meat, with deer and wild turkeys being the most important. Powder and shot was too hard to obtain for to use on small game. Venison was salted just as we pork. Later cattle and hogs were very common, with the hog becoming the most widely source of food. Hogs were always kept unpenned, and generally fed themselves.
>
> Corn was the easiest crop to grow, and was the major source of bread. Wheat bread was very rare. Water powered grist mills ground the grain into meal, and helped many to add to their income. Cooking was done in the fireplace until long after the Civil War.

> Houses were mostly log at first, due to the absence of any saw mills. Roofs were of hand split boards, and some floors were Mother Earth. Families often slept on the floor on straw mattresses. Later, skilled craftsmen made beds. As the family grew, it was the custom to add a loft, and the children slept there. Later, water powered saw mills made possible board houses for those who could afford them, and there are several pre-Civil War houses remaining" (Builders of Freedom, 1976, page 9).

Pocket Township was a voting district in Moore County in 1850; however, the census takers counted him in the Chatham County census. In 1908, Lee County was formed out of parts of Chatham and Moore Counties, and Pocket Township, Lemon Springs, Greenwood, and New Hope (along with the main town of Sanford) all fell within the new Lee County.

On December 23, 1881, William Willett of Moore County sold to (his son) William M. Willett of Moore County, for $250.00, 98 acres in Pocket Township. This, evidently, became the basis for the old Willett plantation which is located on Willett Road (SR 1158) where it crosses Mulatto Branch just east of Highway 1.

On November 29, 1886, William Willett, Sr., of Moore County, North Carolina, sold to J. A. and J. W. and Wm. W. Willett firm of J. W. Willett and Brothers of Moore County, for $32.00, 6 ½ acres of land in Pocket Township. This is land where the old Willett store stood.

William Willett died on October 18, 1894, age 76, and he and his wife are buried at Grace Chapel Christian Church, Highway 501, Lee County.

(1880 Moore County census).

1. Marge: b 1842. (1850 Chatham County census).

2. Amy: b 1843. (1850 Chatham County census).

3. Phoebe: b May 3, 1846 (1842); she remained unmarried, was a member of the local quilting society, and died on January 31, 1924, at the age of 80; buried at Grace Chapel Christian Church, Tramway, Lee County. (1850 Chatham County census; 1880 Moore County census; 1910 Lee County census).

4. John A: b May 23, 1846; m Elizabeth Autry (b February 22, 1845, in Cumberland County; d April 3, 1896); d April 24, 1926, age 75. (1850 Chatham County census). See next S.9.4.

5. Martha: b 1848 (1843). (1850 Chatham County census; 1880 Moore County census).

6. Elizabeth: b October 20, 1850 (1855); d January 11, 1882; buried at the United Methodist Church, Lemon Springs, Lee County. (1880 Moore County census).

7. William M: b January 6, 1854; m Mary Ellen Jackson (b in Moore County); d February 15, 1905. The dates do not agree on his birth and his brother James (below); however this is what is on their tombstones. See next S.9.7.

8. James William, Jr: b July 10, 1854; m Julia E. Burns (b October 23, 1854; d June 19, 1930); d January 2, 1920, age 65; buried at the United Methodist Church, Lemon Springs, Lee County. (1880 Moore County census; 1910 Lee County census). See next S.9.8.

S.9.4
JOHN A. WILLETT and ELIZABETH AUTRY
of Greenwood, Moore County (now Lee County), North Carolina

John A. Willett was born on May 23, 1846, in Chatham County. All of his children are buried at the United Methodist Church, Lemon Springs, Lee County. There is a tombstone to John A. Willett which is most likely his gravestone, even though there are no dates.

He married on December 15, 1869, in Cumberland County, North Carolina, Elizabeth (Lizzie) Autry (b February 22, 1845, in Cumberland County; d April 3, 1896), the daughter of Newsom and Jane Autry.

> "The Grace Chapel Christian Church was organized in October, 1885, with 30 charter members. Prior to building the 1st church on 1 ½ acres of land donated to the church by J. A. Willett and wife, Elizabeth Autry Willett, the people met for services in a school house on the old Lockwood Place now (1976) owned by Mrs. H. D. Coggins" (Builders of Freedom, 1976, page 74.

The first church was of plank board construction and served the community until 1925 when the 2d church was begun. In 1940, the old church was torn down and the Education Building was built over its site.

William and Elizabeth resided in Greenwood, Lee County, North Carolina. Greenwood refers to the present township of Lemon Springs, Lee County. Lee County was formed out of parts of Chatham and Moore counties in 1908. Most likely, John A. Willett lived his whole life in the same location, possibly on the same land. The notations of Chatham, Moore, and Lee counties, are changes in county name, not changes in John A. Willett's residence.

John A. Willett died on April 24, 1926, age 75 years, 11 months, and 1 day, in Lee County.

(1910 Pocket Township, Lee County, North Carolina, census).

1. George Franklin: b December 15, 1873; m abt 1907 Kate (Katie) Lemon (b July 15, 1880, Moore County; d May 11, 1963), the daughte of D. A. and Laura Lemon; resided in Pocket, Lee County; d September 27, 1953, buried at the United Methodist Church, Lemon Springs, Lee County. (1880 Moore County census). See next S.9.4.1.

2. Mary Jane: b March 17, 1875, Moore County, North Carolina; d September 4, 1960, age 85, unmarried; buried at the United Methodist Church, Lemon Springs, Lee County. (1880 Moore County census; 1910 Lee County census).

3. William Vance: b September 28, 1876; d January 8, 1907; buried at the United Methodist Church, Lemon Springs, Lee County. (1880 Moore County census).

4. Rosa Bell: b September 24, 1878; d February 10, 1897; unmarried; buried at the United Methodist Church, Lemon Springs, Lee County. (1880 Moore County census).

5. Elizabeth: b July 27, 1880; d September 4, 1901; unmarried; buried at the United Methodist Church, Lemon Springs, Lee County.

6. Nancy Jane (Nannie): b July 26, 1883; resided in East Pocket, Lee County; d April 6, 1933, age 49, unmarried; buried at the United Methodist Church, Lemon Springs, Lee County. (1910 Lee County census).

7. Bertha: b December 26, 1885; d August 31, 1906; buried at the United Methodist Church, Lemon Springs, Lee County.

8. Cora: b 1890. (1910 Lee County census).

S.9.4.1
GEORGE FRANKLIN WILLETT and KATE LEMON
of Pocket, Lee County, North Carolina

George Franklin Willett was born on December 15, 1873. He married about 1907 Kate (Katie) Lemon (b July 15, 1880, in Moore County; d May 11, 1963), the daughter of D. A. and Laura Lemon. They resided in Pocket, Lee County, North Carolina.

He died on September 27, 1953, and is buried at the United Methodist Church, Lemon Springs, Lee County. (1910 Lee County census).

1. Worth: b May 4, 1908; resided in Lee County; m August 15, 1938, Vera Joyce; d May 11, 1963, and is buried at the United Methodist Church, Lemon Springs, Lee County, North Carolina. (1910 Lee County, census).

2. George Edwin: b August 11, 1909, in Lee County. (1910 Lee County census).

1. Laura Lee: b May 22, 1940.

3. Orene Monroe: b April 1, 1915, West Pocket; resides at Pocket, Lee County, North Carolina.

S.9.7
WILLIAM M. WILLETT and MARY ELLEN JACKSON
of Pocket Township, Lee County, North Carolina

William M. (W?) Willett was born on January 6, 1854. He married on March 4,1880, Mary Ellen (Allie) Jackson (b 1860 in Moore County; d September 21,1943), the daughter of Herbert Jackson and Martha Brown. They lived at Tramway and he was a farmer. He died on February 15, 1905, and is buried at the Grace Chapel Christian Church in Tramway, Lee County. (Most of the dates of birth of his children are confirmed by the family Bible in the possession of his grandson, William Francis Willett of Lemon Springs).

Mary Ellen (Jackson) Willett was living with her son John in 1910.

(1880 Pocket Township, Moore County, census; 1910 Pocket Township, Lee County, census).

1. Malcolm Burgis: b April 9, 1883; he died young on March 10, 1892; buried at the United Methodist Church, Lemon Springs, Lee County.

2. Pearl May: b August 21, 1884; m abt 1905 Fred Poe.

    1. Hugh Poe:

    2. Marybelle Poe:

    3. "Sanky"? Poe:

3. John William: b September 8, 1886; m April 12, 1916 Fannie (Etta) Seawell (b February 28, 1881, in Moore County; d May 3, 1951; buried at the United Methodist Church, Lemon Springs, Lee County), the daughter of Asa Seawell and Francis Ritter; d December 11, Springs, Lee County), the daughter of Asa Seawell and Francis Ritter; d December 11, 1947, buried at the United Methodist Church, Lemon Springs, Lee County. (1910 Lee County census). See next S.9.7.3.

4. Herbert Alton: b October 15, 1888, in Moore County; m 1st February 12, 1910, Lizzie Spivey (b March 30, 1888; d March 13, 1923); m 2d January 15, 1927, Lena C. (b March 7, 1904; d February 19, 1963, buried at the United Methodist Church, Lemon Springs, Lee County), the daughter of Wade Coley and Minnie Kizer; d September 21, 1960. See next S.9.7.4.

5. Nancy Jane: b July 21, 1890; m McDuffy.

6. Mary (Mamie) Currie: b November 11, 1892; she was living with her brother, John and his wife Etta, in 1910; m Bullard. (1910 Lee County census).

7. Robert McNeill: b October 18, 1894, in Moore County; m February 27, 1916, Ottie (Altie) Cole (b October 15, 1898); resided in Pocket Township, Lee County; d May 4, 1954, age 64; buried at the United Methodist Church, Lemon Springs, Lee County. (1910 Lee County census). See next S.9.7.7.

S.9.7.3
JOHN WILLIAM WILLETT and FANNIE SEAWELL
of Lemon Springs, Moore (now Lee) County, North Carolina

John William Willett was born on September 8, 1886, probably at Tramway, Moore (now Lee) County. He married on April 12, 1916 Fannie (Etta) Seawell (b February 28, 1881, in Moore County; d May 3, 1951; buried at the United Methodist Church, Lemon Springs, Lee County), the daughter of Asa Seawell and Francis Ritter.

His wife inherited the Seawell property on what is now Willett Lake in Lemon Springs, Lee County. With the plantation came the Seawell house. In 1910, his mother, Ellen, and his sister, Mamie, were living with them.

John William Willett December 11, 1947, buried at the United Methodist Church, Lemon Springs, Lee County. (1910 Pocket Township, Lee County census).

1. William Francis: b June 16, 1917, in the old Seawell House; m in Lee County, October 19, 1935, Marvaline Jackson (b October 6, 1916) of Lemon Springs (Greenwood), Lee County; lives at Lemon Springs, Lee County. The lake adjoining his property is known as Willett Lake.

    1. Billy Joe: b July 5, 1937, at Lemon Springs, Lee County; m June 21, 1958, Margaret Wishon; a minister who lives in Suffolk, Virginia.

        1. Michael Joe: b October 11, 1960.

        2. Mark Kendall: b June 29, 1963.

S.9.7.4
HERBERT ALTON WILLETT of Greenwood Township, Lee County, North Carolina

Herbert Alton Willett was born on October 15, 1888, in Moore County; m 1st in Lee County on February 12, 1910, Lizzie Spivey (b March 30, 1888; d March 13, 1923), the daughter of N. M. Spivey and Lucy Parker.

In 1910, he was living next to his brother, John, his 2usin, George, and his uncle John A. Willett.

Herbert married 2d on January 15, 1927, Lena L. Coley (b March 7, 1904; d February 19, 1963; buried at United Methodist Church, Lemon Springs, Lee County), the daughter of Wade Coley and Minnie Kizer. Herbert was nearly twice her age.

Herbert Alton Willett died on September 21, 1960.

1. Alma Lorene: b November 24, 1910; m in Lee County Johnson.

    1. Alton M. Johnson: b May 18, 1935.

2. (child):

3. William McNeill: b April 20, 1916.

4. Mary Lucy: b September 16, 1919.

5. Ellen Inez: b October 29, 1927, Lee County.

6. Ruby E: b 1929, Lee County.

7. Geneva: b April 11, 1933, Lee County.

8. Steven O'Briant: b January 10, 1935, Lee County.

9. Boyce Lynn: b July 20, 1938, Lee County.

10. Willett: b October 20, 1940, Lee County.

S.9.7.7
ROBERT MCNEILL and OTTIE COLE
of Pocket, Lee County, North Carolina

Robert McNeill Willett was born on October 18, 1894, in Moore County. He married on February 27, 1916, Ottie (Altie) Cole (b October 15, 1898); Mr. Ralph Foushee, Justice of the Peace, married them at Tramway. They resided in Pocket Township, Lee County. He inherited the old Willett homestead plantation on the present Willett Road just south of Tramway in Lee County. He farmed the plantation and raised tobacco.

He died on May 4, 1954, age 64, and is buried at the United Methodist Church, Lemon Springs, Lee County.

Ottie (Cole) Willett lives with her widowed daughter Shirley Faulk. (Present address: Route 1, Box 551, Sanford, NC 27330; Hickory House Road).

1. Charles David: b February 3, 1917, in East Pocket; m March 23, 1940, Ruth Gwynn (November 7, 1922).

    1. Pauline: b August 19, 1947; d July 8, 1948.

    2. Ruth Elaine: b July 6, 1942, Lee County.

    3. David:

    4. Jennette:

2. Bertha Mae: b December 4, 1918, in East Pocket (Sanford); m Oren Gaines.

    1. Mary Margaret Gaines:

3. Albert: b August 13, 1923; m Magdeline (Maggie) Holt; World War II veteran. See next S.9.7.7.3.

4. Louis: b September 29, 1926; m Anne Doris Davis (b May 12, 1932, Troy, North Carolina); resides in Moore County.

    1. James Michael:

    2. Doris Annette:

    3. Gary Louis:

5. Eula Cole: b December 6, 1929, East Pocket, Lee County; m Ed Bullard.

    1. James Edward Bullard:

    2. Kathy Gale Bullard:

    3. Lisa Bullard:

6. Shirley Corneha: b February 27, 1935, East Pocket, Lee County; m January 23, 1952, Harry Faulk.

    1. Carl Wayne Faulk: b September 10, 1953.

    2. Robert Alton Faulk: b February 2, 1975.

S.9.7.7.3
ALBERT WILLETT and MADGELINE HOLT
of Pocket, Lee County, North Carolina

Albert Willett was born on August 13, 1923. He married Magdeline (Maggie) Holt. Albert received part of the old Willett Plantation on Willett Road as his inheritance; he purchased the remainder from his family.

When the war came Albert joined. He was with the 4th Division in World War II. He was captured in Luxembourg on December 20, 1944, during the Battle of the Bulge, and remained a Prisoner of War until April 24, 1944; he has 3 Battle Stars for service.

After returning from the war, he worked for the Carolina Power and Light Company (CP&L). He is retired. (Present address: Route 8, Box 548A, Sanford, NC 27330)

1. Roger McNeil: b October 26, 1946; m Brenda; lived on U. S. Highway #1 South at Tramway.

    1. Lee Edward: b 1970.

2. Darryl: b March 8, 1962.

S.9.8
JAMES WILLIAM WILLETT and JULIA BURNS
of Pocket Township, Lee County, North Carolina

James William Willett, Jr., was born on July 10, 1854. He married in 1880 Julia E. Burns (b October 23, 1854; d June 19, 1930, age 73 years, 8 months, and 6 days), the daughter of Elisha Burns and Martha Sorrell.

On December 10, 1886, James W. Willett exchanged 4 ½ acres of land east of the old tobacco road adjacent to (his father) Mr. Willett, and said J. W. Willett and Company Mill tract, with Jno W. Scott, Jr.

On February 10, 1908, J. W. Willett and wife Julia Willett, and J. W. Kntsboro, Chatham County

James Willit was born in 1824 in North Carolina. He married about 1848 Mary (b 1827). In 1850, they lived in the Upper Regiment of Chaoebe, age 63; was living with them.

He died on January 2, 1920, age 65; buried at the United Methodist Church, Lemon Springs, Lee County. (1880 Moore County census; 1910 Lee County census).

1. Dannie: b 1876; m December 25, 1895, Alice Beal (b 1876), the daughter of Brooks and Sallie Beal.

2. Lattie R: b 1893 (adopted). (1910 Lee County, census).

S.10
THOMAS WILLET and SARAH of Pittsboro, Chatham County

Thomas Willet was born in 1828 in North Carolina. He married about 1850 Sarah A. (1824). They lived in the Upper Regiment of Chatham County in 1850.

In 1850, Rebecca Willett (b 1806), age 44, was living with them. He was a farmer. (1850 Chatham County, census).

S.11
WILLIAM P. WILLET and MARY of Orange County.

William P. Willet was born in 1819 in North Carolina. He married about 1840 Mary; her maiden name may possibly have been Rosin. (1850 Orange County census).

In 1850 he was a laborer living in the household of Sally Rosin, age 60. A Joseph Willett, age 23, was also living in this same household.

S.12
HENRY WILLITS of Stokes County, North Carolina

Henry Willits was born about 1745 in Hunterdon County, New Jersey. Henry Willits was a Quaker who was a member of the Kingwood Monthly Meeting, Kingwood Township, Hunterdon County, New Jersey, prior to October 13, 1785. He married Charity (b in New Jersey).

Henry left the Kingwood Monthly Meeting, and on January 2, 1786, Henry Willits was received on a certificate from Kingwood that was dated October 13, 1785.

On December 3, 1787, there was a deed between Frederick Millar of Surry County and Henry Willits. Frederick Millar sold, for £ 250, 300 acres of land on the waters of Muddy Creek at Kastners Corners on the Salem Road. This deed was witnessed by Andon Kortner, David Shaffer, and Robert Halloy (Stokes County, North Carolina, Record of Deeds, Volume I, 1787-1790, pages 39-40).

On September 7, 1790, Henry Willets and Andon Kirtner witnessed a deed between Nathan Pike and his wife Elizabeth, planter, and Joseph Mendenhall, hatter, for 110 acres in the middle fork of Muddy Creek (Stokes County Deeds, Vol. 1, pages 37-38).

On August 1, 1791, Henry Willets and Phillip Snider witnessed a deed between Mordecai Mendenhall and John Hine for 25 acres on the south fork of Muddy Creek (Stokes County Deeds, page 366).

He became a member of the Deep River Monthly Meeting, which was located in the western part of Guilford County, North Carolina, about 12 miles from Greensboro.

Henry Willets died soon after he wrote his will on December 16, 1815.

(Encyclopedia of American Quaker Genealogy, Hinshaw).

Extract of will of Henry Willets, December 16, 1815; probated during March Term of the Court, 1816.

To: wife, Charity, use of house and plantation, blacksmith tools, etc;

To: granddaughter, Rhoda;

To: son, Gabriel, 10 Shillings;

To: daughter, Charity, Spinning wheel, etc;

To: daughters, Sarah, Ann, Achjah, Elizabeth, Mary, Jemima, and Charity;
To: children of deceased daughter, Margaret;
Executor: wife, Charity, and Friend, Michael Weisner.

Wit: Joseph Mendenhall Henry Willits
Richard Clampit
(Stokes County Wills, Volume II, page 176)

1. Sarah: b May 18, 1769, in New Jersey; m November 6, 1799, Owen Williams of Stokes County, North Carolina. His will is dated April 14, 1810. He left to his wife, Sarah, daughters, Margaret and Elizabeth, and sons Owen, James, Isaac, and Jesse (Stokes County Wills, Vol. II, page 50).

1. Margaret Williams: b abt 1800.

2. Elizabeth Williams: b abt 1802.

3. Owen Williams: b abt 1804.

4. James Williams: b abt 1806.

5. Isaac Williams: b abt 1808.

6. Jesse Williams: b abt 1810.

2. Gabriel: b January 6, 1771, in New Jersey; m January 16, 1799, Priscilla Pike (b March 25, 1776; d before 1825); resided at Deep River, Stokes County, North Carolina. See next S.12.2.

3. Ann: b November 21, 1772, in New Jersey; m January 9, 1796, Moses Davis of Stokes County, North Carolina.

4. Elizabeth: b April 4, 1772, in New Jersey; on September 2, 1805, she was granted a certificate to the Concord Monthly Meeting, Ohio. Elizabeth Willett was disowned by the Stillwater Monthly Meeting, Belmont County, Ohio, on April 24,1830. About 1832, she married Engle.

5. Margaret: b April 5, 1778, in New Jersey; on September 3, 1798, Margaret was granted a certificate to the Westfield Monthly Meeting (Surry County, North Carolina?); this entry was repeated again on October 1, 1798; perhaps m Bryant? He died before 1816.

6. Newell: b May 18, 1780, in New Jersey; on August 5, 1799, he was condemned for his misconduct (most likely for marrying out of meeting).

7. Achsah: b November 17, 1782 in New Jersey; on June 1, 1807, he was disowned; of Muddy Creek.

8. Mary: b September 21, 1785 in New Jersey; m November 15, 1809, Jacob Harrold of Stokes County, North Carolina.

9. Jemima: b October 20, 1787 in North Carolina; on June 7, 1813, Jemima of Muddy Creek was disowned.

10. Joseph: b October 25, 1789 in Stokes County, North Carolina; on November 11, 1816, Joseph Willits was granted a certificate to the Plainfield Monthly Meeting, Ohio. On June 30, 1823, the Somerset Monthly Meeting, Belmont County, Ohio, "dis mcd."

11. Henry: b March 19, 1792; in the 1800 census for Stokes County, North Carolina; on September 1, 1817, Henry Willets was granted a certificate to the Clover Creek Monthly Meeting, Ohio. He married on November 25, 1821, Lydia Hodgin in Belmont, Ohio.

12. Charity: b January 2, 1798; on September 1, 1817, Charity, Jr., of Muddy Creek, was granted a certificate to Lee's Creek Monthly Meeting, Clinton County, Ohio. She married Frazier.

S.12.2
GABRIEL WILLETS of Stokes County, North Carolina

Gabriel Willits was born in Kingwood, New Jersey on January 6, 1771. Kingswood Monthly Meeting is located in Kingswood Township, Hunderton County, New Jersey. He married 1st in North Carolina on January 16, 1799, Priscilla Pike (b March 25, 1778; d July 25, 1824). In 1807, they were members of the Deep River Monthly Meeting (located in the western part of Guilford County, about 12 miles from Greensboro).

Gabriel and Priscilla Willits were original members of the Union Monthly Meeting, Stokes County (now Forsyth), North Carolina. This was 2 miles south of Kernersville, and was founded January 28, 1818. Union Monthy Meeting was discontinued June 25, 1834, when it was attached to Dover Monthly Meeting.

Gabriel married 2d on September 28, 1825, Elizabeth Deen, the widow of Isaac Deen. On October 26, 1831, Elizabeth Willits and daughters were granted a certificate to the Chester Monthly Meeting, Wayne County, Indiana. (1800, 1810, 1820, 1830 censuses for Stokes County, North Carolina).

1. Sarah: b September 17, 1799; on September 23, 1829, Sarah requested a certificate to the Clear Creek Monthly Meeting, Hiland County, Ohio.

2. Abigail: b September 15, 1801; on March 28, 1827 she was granted a certificate to the New Garden Monthly Meeting.

3. Henry: b October 11, 1803 in Stokes County, North Carolina; m June 9, 1825, Mary Mendenhall; removed September 21, 1825, to the New Garden Monthly Meeting, Indiana; he d December 16, 1896, in Hamilton County, Indiana. See next S.12.2.3.

4. Elizabeth: b September 22, 1805; m Dyer; on October 23, 1822, Elizabeth Dyer (formerly Willits) was condemned out of her mouth (probably for marrying out of meeting).

5. Nathan: b September 2, 1807, at Stokes County, North Carolina; on August 25, 1830, he was granted a certificate to the New Garden Monthly Meeting, Indiana; m abt 1830 Ascenith Schooley; on March 12, 1831, the New Garden Monthly Meeting condemned Nathan.

1. Ruth: b abt 1832.

2. John: b abt 1835.

3. Rachel: b abt 1837; m Roberts.

4. Gabriel: b abt 1840.

5. Betsey: b abt 1842; m Miller (or Miles).

6. Charity: b November 27, 1807; m Pitts; on June 28, 1831, Charity Pitts (formerly Willits) was condemned at of her mouth (probably for marrying out of meeting).

7. Joseph: b February 13, 1812; m September 21, 1838, at Hamilton County, Indiana, Rachel Stanbrough; d abt 1840. She married 2d on February 19, 1843, at Westfield, Indiana, Cyrus Hollingsworth.

1. Lavina: b April 10, 1839, Hamilton County, Indiana.

8. Phoebe: b May 9, 1814.

9. Susannah: b June 24, 1816.

10. Levi: b February 4, 1819.

11. Jesse: b March 1, 1822; m Caroline.

1. Jeremiah: b abt 1845.

2. Benjamin: b abt 1847.

3. Martin: b abt 1850.

4. Orlando Elmer: b abt 1852.

5. Milton Perry: b abt 1855.

12. Ruth: b July 1, 1826; m July 15, 1846, Samuel Cary at Hamilton County, Indiana.

S.12.2.3

HENRY WILLITS of Stokes County, North Carolina, and Hamilton County, Indiana

Henry Willits was born on October 11, 1803 in Stokes County, North Carolina into a Quaker family. He married 1st at the Union County Monthly Meeting (Muddy Creek), Stokes County, on June 9, 1825, Mary Mendenhall (b abt 1830). It was only a few months later that they removed on September 21, 1825, to the New Garden Monthly Meeting, Indiana. Mary (Mendenhall) Willits died sometime between 1828 and 1831 in Wayne County, Indiana.

Henry Willits married second on May 18, 1831 Rachel Murphy in Hamilton County, Indiana. He died on December 16, 1896, in Hamilton County, Indiana, and is buried in Hinkles Cemetery.

1. Jonathan; b February 6, 1826, in Wayne County, Indiana; m abt 1849 Mary; resided in Hamilton County, Indiana.

1. Stella; b abt 1849; m 1895 John Patterson.

2. Edgar; b abt 1852.

3. Kate;

2. Mahlon; b October 16, 1827, in Wayne County, Indiana; m April 17, 1851, in Hamilton County, Indiana, Anne Maria Frazer (b January 19, 1832, in Hendricks County, Tennessee). They resided in Marshall County, Iowa.

1. Floyd; b January 3, 1853, in Marshall County, Iowa.

2. John A; b August 14, 1854, in Marshall County, Iowa.

3. Samuel O; b December 15, 1876, in Marshall County, Iowa.

3. William; b abt 1833; m June 24, 1876, Malinda Hayworth, of the Fairfield County Monthly Meeting, Hendricks County, Indiana; d July 20, 1871, in Hamilton County, Indiana; buried in Easton, Iowa.

4. Jeremiah; b abt 1837.

5. Anne Jane; b November 23, 1842, in Hamilton County, Iowa.

CHAPTER TWENTY
THE DEEP SOUTH: A Survey
Maryland, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Kentucky

T.1
JEREMIAH WILLETT and SARAH LOWE of Georgia and Elmore County, Alabama

Jeremiah Willett was born on November 10, 1815. He married about 1837 Sarah Lowe (b October 6, 1815, in Georgia; d June 21, 1873, at Sykes Mill, Alabama).

About 1848, they moved from either Harris County, Georgia, or Sumter County, Georgia to Coosa County, Alabama. He lived in Coosa County during the 1850s and 1860s. In 1870, he is living at Sykes Mill, Titus, Elmore County, Alabama.

Jeremiah Willett died on November 18, 1877, at Sykes Mill, Titus, Elmore County, Alabama. He is buried in a cemetery at Sykes Mill. The cemetery is now abandoned. It is on a hill just above where the old mill use to be. (1850 Coosa County, Alabama, census; 1870 Elmore County, Alabama, census).

1. Elizabeth (Mary): b 1838, in Georgia; m at Wetumpka, Elmore County, Georgia, on December 7, 1857, Edmond Womble. She is buried at the Coosa River Church. (1850 Coosa County, Alabama, census).

2. James Lowe: b February 4, 1842, in Harris County, Georgia; m January 2, 1884, at Wetumpka, Elmore County, Alabama, Martha Josephine Humphries (b July 22, 1850; d January 22, 1926, at Sykes Mill, Alabama); he died on December 11, 1913, at Sykes Mill, Alabama. (1850 Coosa County, Alabama, census). See next T.1.2.

3. Willis: b August 6, 1843, at Americus, Georgia; m September 15, 1867, at Wetumpka, Elmore County, Alabama, Aletha Elvirus Dobbs (b February 17, 1849; d March 31, 1934, in Athens, Claiborne County, Louisiana), the daughter of Sammie Dobbs and Kate Yates; d September 27, 1913, at Athens, Claiborne Parish, Louisiana. (1850 Coosa County, Alabama, census). See next T.1.3.

4. Sarah Martha: b 1845, in Georgia; m abt 1870 Dupree; both are buried at the Coosa River Church, Alabama. (1850 Coosa County, Alabama, census; 1870 Elmore County, Alabama, census).

5. Jessie (Coot): b 1846, in Georgia; m in Elmore County on April 5, 1873, V. G. Baggett; buried at Marbury, Alabama. (1850 Coosa County, Alabama, census; 1870 Elmore County, Alabama, census).

6. Georgia Ann V: b 1849, in Alabama; m abt 1860 Larkin A. Holman (b 1848 in Georgia; d in Colorado); d in Colorado. (1850 Coosa County, Alabama, census; 1870 Elmore County, Alabama, census).

7. Amanda: b 1850, in Alabama; m December 30, 1880, Elisha Greer (buried in Clanton, Chilton County, Alabama); she is buried in Clanton, Chilton County, Alabama. (1850 Coosa County, Alabama, census; 1870 Elmore County, Alabama, census).

8. Tommie: b 1854, in Alabama; d 1862; buried by his mother and father at Sykes Mill; no marker.

9. E. E: b 1856, in Alabama; died young; buried by his mother and father at Sykes Mill; no marker.

10. J. Rubin: b 1858, in Alabama; died young; buried by his mother and father at Sykes Mill; no marker.

11. Rosie A: b 1859, in Alabama; died young; buried by his mother and father at Sykes Mill; no marker.

T.1.2
JAMES LOWE WILLETT and MARTHA JOSEPHINE HUMPHRIES
of Sykes Mill, Elmore County, Alabama

James Lowe Willett was born on February 4, 1842, in Harris County, Georgia. He married on January 2, 1884, at Wetumpka, Elmore County, Alabama, Martha Josephine Humphries (b July 22, 1850; d January 22, 1926, at Sykes Mill, Alabama). He died on December 11, 1913, at Sykes Mill, Alabama. (1900 Elmore County, Alabama, census).

1. Annie Lowe: b May 12, 1886; m on January 3, 1918, James Henry Wood (b September 26, 1896; d May 30, 1976); d December 29, 1983; no issue. (1900 Elmore County, Alabama, census).

2. Eddie (twin): b July 18, 1888; m William Berry Wood (March 31, 1874; d January 22, 1939); d March 27, 1967. (1900 Elmore County, Alabama, census).

1. James Berry Wood: b February 10, 1919; unmarried.

2. William Edsel Wood: b July 16, 1920; m January 12, 1941, Mavis Luverne Holman Wood (b December 26, 1919); d April 23, 1980.

3. Jeddie Calvin (twin): b July 18, 1888; d July 19, 1888.

4. Ada Pearl: b August 12, 1889; d April 30, 1890.

5. Maymee: b November 26, 1890; m abt 1910 Jessie Penial Blake (b January 15, 1891; d February 26, 1965); d April 21, 1978. (1900 Elmore County, Alabama, census).

1. James Penial Blake (II): b abt 1912.

2. Katie Joe Blake: b April 25, 1913; d October 9, 1951.

3. Berah Blake: b abt 1915.

4. Darius Willett Blake: b February 15, 1918.

T.1.3
WILLIS WILLETT and ALETHA ELVIRUS DOBBS
of Titus, Elmore County, Alabama, and Athens, Claiborne Parish, Louisiana

Willis Willett was born on August 6, 1843, at Americus, Sumter County, Georgia. On February 24, 1862, Willis Willett of (Buyckville, Alabama) enlisted at Rockford, Alabama, as a private in Company A, 46th Alabama Infantry Regiment. The following is a list of the engagements which Willis Willett participated in:

Present:	August 4, 1862	Tagewell, Tennessee
Present:	May 1, 1863	Fort Gibson, Mississippi
Present:	May 16, 1863	Bakers Creek, Mississippi
Present:	May 17 to July 4, 1863	Vicksburg, Mississippi
Present:	November 24, 1863	Lookout Mountain
Present:	November 25, 1863	Missionary Ridge
Present:	February 25, 1864	Rocky Face Mountain
Present:	May 8, 9, and 10, 1864	Rocky Face Mountain
Present:	May 14, and 15, 1864	Resaca
Present:	May, 1864	Calhoun
Present:	May, 1864	Cassville
Present:	May 26, 1864	New Hope
Present:	June to July 3, 1864	Kenesawline, Georgia
Present:	July 4, 1864	Mariettaline, Georgia
Present:	July 20, 1864	Peachtree Creek, Georgia
Present:	July 21 to Aug. 28, 1864	Atlanta, Georgia
Present:	August 31, 1864	Jonesboro
Present:	November 30, 1864	Columbia, Tennessee
Captured:	December 16, 1864	Nashville, Tennessee
Discharged:	April 26, 1865.	

Willis Willett married on September 15, 1867, at Wetumpka, Elmore County, Alabama, Aletha Elvirus Dobbs (b February 17, 1849; d March 31, 1934, in Athens, Claiborne Parish, Louisiana), the daughter of Sammie Dobbs and Kate Yates.

They lived at Titus, Elmore County, Alabama. On January 4, 1900, Willis Willett, with his family, and seven other families, left Alabama on a chartered freight train. When they reached Vicksburg, Mississippi, they crossed the river by ferry, proceeded by train again and arrived at Athens, Claiborne Parish, Louisana, a few days later.

Willis Willett died on September 27, 1913, at Athens, Claiborne Parish, Louisiana, and is buried at Old Athens Cemetery, Athens, Louisiana. (1870 Elmore County, Alabama, census; 1880 Chilton County, Alabama, census; 1900 Elmore County, Alabama, census).

1. Jeremiah M: b November 22, 1872; m February 18, 1906, Perdonia (Donnie) Alamedia Feazell (b December 21, 1884, at Athens, Louisana; d September 5, 1964); d April 5, 1932. Both are buried at Hurricane Cemetery, north of Arcadia, Bienville Parish, Louisiana. (1880 Chilton County, Alabama, census). See next T.1.3.1.

2. James Samuel: b June 29, 1875; m on November 19, 1897, Mary Catherine P. Harris Henley (b November 3, 1871; d January 5, 1930, in Shreveport, Louisiana); d January 8, 1911, at Athens, Claiborne Parish, Louisiana. (1800 Chilton County, Alabama, census). See next T.1.3.2.

3. W. Malcolm: b October 22, 1877, in Elmore County, Alabama; he came to Louisana in 1904 with the rest of his family; m February, 1906, Alice R. Bucker (Ruckner?) (b October 9, 1887); was in business in Homer, Louisiana, for years; d March 4, 1950, at Monroe, Louisiana. (1880 Chilton County, Alabama, census; 1900 Elmore County, Alabama, census). See next T.1.3.3.

4. Sally Nannette: b February 18, 1880; m at Minden, Louisiana on December 6, 1903, Peyton Louis White (b May 20, 1881); d November 28, 1945. (1880 Chilton County, Alabama, census; 1900 Elmore County, Alabama, census).

5. Cate: b June 5, 1882; m March 13, 1910, Will T. Perritt; d July 30, 1939. (1900 Elmore County, Alabama, census).

6. Willis W. (II): b July 27, 1884; m at Homer, Clairborne Parish, Louisiana, on May 26, 1916, Lillian Perritt (b March 9, 1900; d June 10, 1984, in Ruston, Louisiana; buried in the Old Athens Cemetery, near Athens, Louisiana); d January 18, 1955. (1900 Elmore County, Alabama, census). See next T.1.3.6.

7. Cornelius Neil (Coot): b April 7, 1886, in Elmore County, Alabama; came to Louisiana with his family in January, 1904; m December 27, 1908, at Athens, Claiborne Parish, Louisiana, Sarah Minnie New (b April 20, 1882, at Elmore County, Alabama; d March 2, 1972); d February 12, 1974; both are buried in the Old Athens Cemetery. (1900 Elmore County, Alabama, census).

1. Mamie Lois: b October 20, 1901, in Athens, Claiborne Parish, Louisiana; m December 20, 1928, L. B. Sherrill (d August 22, 1979; buried Old Athens Cemetery).

8. Lenora: b April 22, 1888; m November 8, 1908, Henry Crofford New (b January 8, 1886; d November 10, 1978); resided in Minden, Louisiana; they farmed all their life and survived to celebrate their 70th wedding anniversary; d May 21, 1981. Both are buried in the Old Athens Cemetery. (1900 Elmore County, Alabama, census).

9. Jessie Guy: b November 19, 1890; unmarried; d February 28, 1896; buried in the Wayside Cemetery, near Elmore, Elmore County, Alabama. Matha New Hall of Buena Vista, Georgia, has his baby dress in a frame on the wall.

T.1.3.1
JEREMIAH WILLETT and PERDONIA ALAMEDIA FEAZEL of Claiborne Parish, Louisiana

Jeremiah (Jerry) M. Willett was born on November 22, 1872, in Elmore County, Alabama. He married on February 18, 1906, Perdonia (Donnie) Alamedia Feazell (b December 21, 1884, at Athens, Louisana; d September 5, 1964).

Jerry and Donia lived on a farm northwest of Arcadia, Louisiana. Jerry died on April 5, 1932. Both are buried at Hurricane Cemetery, north of Arcadia, Bienville Parish, Louisiana.

1. Claude Claiborne: b March 11, 1907, near Athens, Louisiana; m May 29, 1957, in Marshall, Texas, Lorene Miller (b September 20, 1915, at Center, Texas; d June 29, 1983); d July 23, 1981. Both are buried in the Hurricane Cemetery; no issue.

2. Doris Esther: b October 27, 1908, in Athens, Louisiana; m in Arcadia on November 5, 1938, Charney W. Jones (b February 3, 1898, near Gilmer, Texas; d May 9, 1982); Esther died January 29, 1966. Both are buried at the Henry Chapel Cemetery, Troup, Texas.

1. Geneva Faye Jones: b October 11, 1941, in Troup, Texas; m Lee Roy Meziel (b July 31, 1941, at Fort Worth, Texas.

3. Irvin: b October 2, 1910, at Athens, Louisiana; m at Lake Providence, Louisiana, on November 21, 1941, Lorraine Winters (b April 26, 1925, at Parksdale, Arkansas); d January 18, 1874; buried in the Hurricane Cemetery. See next T.1.3.1.3.

4. Lynn: b October 22, 1912, near Athens, Louisiana; m in Lake Providence, Louisiana, on October 10, 1940, Jerome Aultman (b January 26, 1924); d September 17, 1964; buried in the Hurricane Cemetery.

1. Jerry Lynn Aultman: b July 29, 1941, in Monroe, Louisana.

2. Floyd Lynn Aultman:

5. James Cullen: b March 29, 1915, at Athens, Louisiana; m in Hillsboro, Texas, on June 9, 1941, Margaret Kathryn Cliett (b January 14, 1916, Hillsboro, Texas); d July 18, 1974; buried in Seminole, Oklahoma.

1. Donald Cliett: b January 20, 1944, in Austin, Texas; m Linda Gail (b October 9, 1945, in Linden, Texas).

1. Laura Catherine: b July 15, 1969, at Winnsboro, Texas.

2. Margaret Evelyn: b October 24, 1945, in Austin, Texas; m Zane Woodring in Madison, Wisconsin.

3. James Lambert: b February 10, 1949; d February 16, 1949; buried in Hillsboro, Texas.

6. Eddie: b January 22, 1918, near Athens, Louisiana; m in Fresno, California, September 2, 1953, Charles Gerald Briggs (b September 2, 1915, in Ava, Missouri); no issue.

7. Movia Pauline: b August 2, 1921, near Athens, Louisiana; m in Fresno, California, on September 1, 1948, William Walter Upton (b July 3, 1906, in Lexington, Oklahoma; d April 23, 1966; buried in Mount Olive Cemetery, Hugo, Oklahoma).

1. Jackie Ray Upton: b June 1, 1949; d June 2, 1949; buried in the Clovis Cemetery, Clovis, California.

2. Dewayne Keith Upton: b October 30, 1958, in Fresno, California; m 1st September 3, 1978, Donna Janice Mathys, divorced; m 2d in Arcadia, Louisiana, on March 23, 1984, Jennifer K. Williams (b September 16, 1967, in Philadelphia, Mississippi).

8. Melvin J. (Bill): b April 10, 1925, near Arcadia, Bienville Parish, Louisiana; m at Nacogdoches, Texas, on June 29, 1968, Corallie Camps (b September 21, 1937, in Houston, Texas).

T.1.3.1.3
IRVIN WILLETT and LORRAINE WINTERS of Claiborne Parish, Louisiana

Irvin Willett was born on October 2, 1910, at Athens, Louisiana. He married at Lake Providence, Louisiana, on November 21, 1941, Lorraine Winters (b April 26, 1925, at Parksdale, Arkansas).

Irvin Willett died on January 18, 1874, and is buried in the Hurricane Cemetery.

1. Milton Eugene: b December 12, 1942, in Sondheimer, Louisiana; m June 29, 1971, Betty Jane Bass (b November 21, 1952, in Ringgold, Louisiana).

    1. Barry Eugene: b May 22, 1972, in Minden, Louisiana.

    2. Casey Dewayne: b January 5, 1977, in Minden, Louisiana.

2. Billy Michael: b February 23, 1945, near Arcadia, Louisiana; m in Marshall, Texas, Dorothy New (b September 3, 1952).

    1. Billy Michael, Jr: b August 19, 1968, at Sitka, Alaska.

    2. Latisha Mitchell: b September 1, 1980, in Dallas, Texas.

    3. Teri Lynn: b January 13, 1982, in Dallas, Texas.

3. Larry Irvin: b June 9, 1948, in Yakima, Washington; m in Minden, Louisiana, on February 14, 1982, Judy Branch (b December 10, 1952).

T.1.3.2
JAMES SAMUEL WILLETT and MARY CATHERINE P. HARRIS HENLEY
of Titus, Elmore County, Alabama, and Athens, Claiborne Parish, Louisiana

James Samuel Willett was born on June 29, 1875, in Elmore County, ALabama. He married in Elmore County, Alabama, on November 19, 1897, Mrs. Mary Catherine P. Harris Henley (b November 3, 1871, in Elmore County, Alabama; d January 5, 1930, in Shreveport, Louisiana). Mrs. Mary C. Henley brought to this marriage 5 stepchildren (Maggie, Dora G., Benjamin, Effie B., and James V. Henley). They left Alabama on January 4, 1904, on a chartered train with 6 other families.

James Willett was an ordained Baptist Minister in 1909, and a charter member of the Mount Olive Church in 1910. He died on January 8, 1911, at Athens, Claiborne Parish, Louisiana, and is buried in the Old Athens Cemetery. (1900 Elmore County, Alabama, census).

1. Allie Ola: b December 25, 1898, in Coosa County, Alabama; unmarried. (1900 Elmore County, Alabama, census).

2. Nona Nanette: b June 14, 1900, in Elmore County, Alabama; m on June 11, 1919, Johnnie Francis Harper (b March 18, 1899, in Ringgold, Louisiana; d July 10, 1877, buried at Pleasant Grove Cemetery); d March 11, 1964, in Oakland, California; buried in Ringgold, Louisiana, Pleasant Grove Cemetery.

1. Johnnie Francis Harper, Jr: b July 5, 1920, in Ringgold, Louisiana; m November 15, 1952, Linda Gertrude Thomas Sweat.

2. Dorothy Mae Harper: b March 5, 1923, in Ringgold, Louisiana; m March 18, 1945, David Wilson Edwards (b October 17, 1923).

3. Billy Rex Harper: b March 12, 1927, in Ringgold, Louisiana; m November 18, 1945, Beatrice D. Castor (b March 30, 1923, in Linden, Texas).

4. Bobbie June Harper: b June 22, 1929, in Ringgold, Louisiana; m March 10, 1950, Walter Griffing Edwards (b February 6, 1928; brother to David).

3. Willis McKinley: b December 25, 1901, in Elmore County, Alabama; m December 19, 1930, Winnie Mae Freeman (b January 17, 1902, in Canyon, Texas); d November 2, 1972, in Leaky, Texas.

4. Samuel Alzono: b April 6, 1903, in Elmore County, Alabama; unmarried; resides in Rockwood, Roane County, Tennessee (1981).

5. Jessie May: b February 26, 1905, in Athens, Claiborne Parish, Louisiana; m November 11, 1927, Fred Richardson (b November 2; d January 31, 1966); d May 26, 1966, in Memphis, Tennessee.

6. Mary Lou: b Ocotber 10, 1907, in Athens, Claiborne Parish, Louisiana; m April 17, 1929, Joe Burnett (b September 6, 1891; d July 24, 1949).

7. Spurgeon Moody: b March 11, 1910, in Athens, Claiborne Parish, Alabama; m August 4, 1934, 1st Marietta Johnson (b December 29, 1914); m 2d Virginia Harris; m 3d Betty; m 4th; and m 5th Ethel Smith Guage; resides in Rockwood, Roane County, Tennessee (1981). See next T.1.3.2.7.

T.1.3.2.7
SPURGEON MOODY WILLETT of Rockwood, Roane County, Tennessee

Spurgeon Moody Willett was born on March 11, 1910, in Athens, Claiborne Parish, Alabama. He married 1st on August 4, 1934, Marietta Johnson (b December 29, 1914).

He married 2d Virginia Harris; married 3d Betty; married a 4th time; and married 5th Ethel Smith Guage.

Spurgeon Moody Willett resides in Rockwood, Roane County, Tennessee (1981).

1. Catherine Lee: b June 4, 1935, in Memphia, Tennessee; m on February 29, 1956, Charles Edwin Jones.

2. Spurgen Moody, Jr. (Spud): b January 5, 1938, in Memphis, Tennessee; m March 21, 1959, Norma Lee Honeycutt.

3. Howard Lawrence: b April 25, 1940, in Memphi, Tennsessee; m on November 11, 1958, Marilyn Virginia Hassler; d in an automobile accident on March 1, 1974, in Rockwood, Tennessee.

1. Thomas Leslie: b August 26, 1964, in Rockwood, Tennessee.

2. Laura Lisa: b November 5, 1966, in Rockwood, Tennessee.

3. Eric Lawrence: b September 22, 1969, in Rockwood, Tennessee.

T.1.3.3
MALCOLM WILLETT and ALICE R. BUCKNER of Homer and Monroe, Louisiana

Malcolm Willett was born on October 22, 1877, in Elmore County, Alabama. He came to Louisana in 1904 with the rest of his family.

Malcolm married on February, 1906, Alice R. Buckner (b October 9, 1887). He owned a business in Homer, Louisiana, for years. He died on March 4, 1950, at Monroe, Louisiana. Both are buried in Monroe, Louisiana.

1. Jesse O'Neal (Red): b May 7, 1908, in Claiborne Parish, Louisiana; m Zoe Cooksey (b July 9, 1910); resided in Monroe, Louisiana; Red started a business in the 1930 hauling fill and building new roads; later he engaged in the pipeline business; d abt 1963; no issue.

2. Iva Lucille: b August 9, 1910, in Claiborne Parish, Louisiana; m October 10, 1937, John Hulen Alford (b May 7, 1908), the son of Glover Alford and Gracie Elmore; reside in Monroe, Louisiana.

1. Alan Ray Alford: b February 7, 1939, in Bossier City, Louisiana.

T.1.3.6
WILLIS W. WILLETT, Jr., and EVA LILLIAN PERRITT
of Ruston, Lincoln Parish, Louisiana

Willis (Willie) W. Willett, Jr., was born on July 27, 1884, in Elmore County, Alabama. He came to Athens, Louisiana, in January, 1904, with his family.

He married at Homer, Clairborne Parish, Louisiana, on May 26, 1916, Lillian Perritt (b March 9, 1900; d June 10, 1984, in Ruston, Louisiana, and is buried in the Old Athens Cemetery, near Athens, Louisiana), the daughter of Allen Drayton Perritt and Lela Elizabeth Boone of Bienville Parish, Louisiana.

They were share-croppers. Willie died on January 18, 1955.

1. William Audie: b November 7, 1917, near Athens, Louisiana; enlisted in the Army Air Force on August 14, 1940, and served in Africa during World War II; discharged on February 5, 1944; married 1st 1945 Mararette Beatty, divorced; m 2d 1948 Dottie (b in England), divorced; m 3d 1953 Anne Nicols of Choudrant, Louisiana, divorced; m 4th 1962 Jeannette Martin, divorced; m 5th 1965 Billie Chandler Jacobs; d November 29, 1976, of lung cancer; buried near Ruston, Louisiana.

2. Allen Drayton: b May 2, 1920, near Athens, Louisiana; enlisted in Army on February 14, 1941, and served in the South Pacific during the war; discharged September 1, 1946; m November 24, 1947, Edna Armour Reevies (b March 30, 1931); resides in Ruston, Louisiana.

1. Henry Allen: b January 25, 1951; m September 11, 1971, Rebecca Snipes, the daughter of Edward Snipes and Gracie Skipper; divorced in 1975; m 2d September 10, 1977, Linda Kavanaugh, the daughter of Thomas Kavanaugh and Bonnie Marsh. Linda had 2 children by previous marriages (Harry Dewayne Uzzer (stepson): b May 10, 1972; and Tonya Denise Voss (stepson): b August 27, 1973).

1. Thomas Allen: b October 27, 1977.

2. Larry Kent: b August 8, 1956; m August 19, 1977, Jean Louise DeFreese, the daughter of Travis DeFreese and Pearl Stevens.

1. Kelly Ann: b July 10, 1979.

2. Donna Marie: b June 22, 1982.

3. Curtis Cecil: b September 29, 1923, near Athens, Louisiana; enlisted in the Army on August 8, 1940, in Rayville, Louisiana; accidently burnt in a motor pool fire at Fort Bragg, North Carolina; died several days later on September 30, 1942, at Fort Bragg; buried in the Old Athens Cemetery with his mother and father.

4. Huey Pierce: b October 29, 1929, near Athens, Louisiana; d November 6, 1929.

5. Bobby Gene: b August 8, 1932; m at Jonesboro, Louisiana, on November 25, 1955, Margie Vernell Shackleford (b September 21, 1935, in Jonesboro, Jackson Parish, Louisiana), the daughter of Griss Shackleford and Mildred Quarles. See next T.1.3.6.5.

6. Erma Elaine: b November 26, 1937, neart Athens, Louisiana; m August 16, 1958, Donald Richard Elam (b December 9, 1933, in McVrory, Arkansas), the son of Lonnie Richmond Elam and Bertha Jane Prince; reside in Monroe, Louisiana.

1. Steven Kirk Elam: b June 8, 1967, in New Orleans, Louisiana; m in Shreveport, Louisiana, on December 18, 1982, Kathy Dianne Loe (b July 14, 1961), the daughter of Thomas Newton Loe and Kathryn DePrato.

2. Richard Eric Elam: b June 8, 1967, in Jackson, Mississippi.

3. Christopher Wade Elam: b January 27, 1969, in Monroe, Louisiana.

T.1.3.6.5
BOBBY GENE WILLETT and MARGIE VERNELL SHACKLEFORD
of Ruston, Lincoln Parish, Louisiana

Bobby Gene Willett was born on August 8, 1932, near Athens, Louisiana. He served in the Army during the Korean War from February 13, 1953, until January 28, 1955. He resides at 1804 Church Street, Ruston, Louisiana, 71270. He married Margie Vernell Shackleford (b September 21, 1935, in Jonesboro, Jackson Parish, Louisiana), the daughter of Griss Shackleford and Mildred Quarles.

Bobby Gene Willett worked for the post office for 25 years. He now owns Shipley Donuts in Ruston, Louisiana.

1. Debra Renea: b December 25, 1956, in Ruston, Louisiana; m in Ruston, Lincoln Parish, January 29, 1976, Dennis Allen, the son of John Bennett Allen.

1. Brad Allen: b October 22, 1976, in Ruston, Louisiana

2. Amy Lynn Allen: b August 28, 1979, in Ruston, Louisiana.

2. Donald Wayne (twin): b July 16, 1958, in Ruston, Louisiana; m May 25, 1984, Brenda Lee Pipes (b December 14, 1961), the daughter of James Harold Pipes and Betty Jean Lee.

3. Ronald Layne (twin): b July 19, 1958, in Ruston, Louisiana; m December 21, 1979, Juanita Leigh Walker (b May 20, 1959), the daughter of Lanis Walker and Ruby Olene Burrow.

1. Jacob (twin): b May 24, 1982, in Monroe, Ouachita Parish, Louisiana; d May 26, 1982.

2. Joshua (twin): b May 24, 1982, in Monroe, Ouachita Parish, Louisiana; d June 7, 1982, in Monroe; buried at the Pines Memorial Gardens on the Cooktown Road near Ruston, Louisiana.

4. Gary Curtis: b January 6, 1963.

T.2

ABSALUM T. WILLETT and LUCINDA of Tennessee, and Marion County, Alabama

Absalum T. Willett was born in 1806 in Tennessee. He married in Tennessee about 1831 Lucinda (b 1815 in Tennessee). They probably remained in Tennessee for a while; however by 1850, they had removed to Marion County, Alabama. A. T. Willett was a hatter. Most likely, Mary Willett (b 1772 in North Carolina), age 78 and living with him in 1850, is his mother. He was living in Lamar County, Alabama, in 1880. He is also recorded in the 1880 Marion County, Alabama, census).
(1850, 1880 Marion County, Alabama, census; 1880 Lamar County, Alabama, census).

1. Sarah Jane: b 1832 in Alabama. (1850 Marion County, Alabama, census).

2. Mary A: b 1834 in Alabama; m abt 1855 Logan. (1850 Marion County, Alabama, census; 1880 Lamar County, Alabama, census).

3. William Joseph: b March, 1836, in Alabama; m October 25, 1868, Martha W. Bradshaw, at Limestone, Alabama; d February 13, 1891. (1850 Marion County, Alabama, census). See next T.2.3.

4. Reuben L: b January, 1840, in Alabama; m Pauline O. (b October, 1839, in Alabama). (1850 Marion County, Alabama, census).

1. William: b October, 1882, in Alabama.

5. Patsy E: b 1842 in Alabama. (1850 Marion County, Alabama, census; 1880 Lamar County, Alabama, census).

6. Isabella: b 1844 in Alabama. (1850 Marion County, Alabama, census; 1880 Lamar County, Alabama, census).

7. Emily: b 1846 in Alabama. (1850 Marion County, Alabama, census).

8. Lidia: b 1848 in Alabama. (1850 Marion County, Alabama, census).

9. George: b 1860 in Alabama. (1880 Lamar County, Alabama, census).

T.2.3
WILLIAM JOSEPH WILLETT and MARTHA W. BRADSHAW
of Courtland County, and Limestone County, Alabama

William Joseph Willett was born March, 1836, in Alabama. He was raised in Marion County, Alabama. William Joseph Willett enlisted in the Confederate Army on August 16, 1861, at Courtland, Lawrence County, Alabama. Lawrence County is just south of Limestone County. Lake Wheeler separates the two counties. William Joseph served 3 years in the army. Later in life, he received a pension for his service.

William Joseph Willett married on October 25, 1868, at Limestone, Alabama, Martha W. Bradshaw, the daughter of William and Louisa Bradshaw.

Later in life, he was a resident of Pacio, Alabama. He died on February 13, 1891, and is buried at the Rambo Cemetery, Limestone County, Alabama. His tombstone has the simple inscription: "William J. Willett, Company G, 16th Alabama, Infantry, CSA" (no dates are inscribed). Company G was composed of men from Marion County, Alabama, and fought in the Battle of Murfreesboro.

(1850 Marion County, Alabama, census, page 129; 1880 Limestone County, Alabama, census, page 7; 1900 Limestone County, Alabama, census, page A4).

1. Reuben R. T: b September, 1872, in Alabama.

2. Lucinda E: b July, 1875, in Alabama.

3. William T: b November 29, 1877, in Alabama; m Lucy D. (b August 19, 1882; d May 31, 1961); d February 1, 1963; both are buried in the Reunion Cemetery, Limestone County, Alabama).

4. Martha E: b March, 1880, in Alabama.

5. Sarah J: b March 8, 1882, in Limestone County, Alabama.

6. Nancy C: b July 25, 1885, in Alabama.

7. Charley R. D: b April, 1889, in Alabama; d March 31, 1939; buried in the Hall Cemetery, Limestone County, Alabama.

8. George W: b April, 1892, in Alabama; Alice Mae (b May 20, 1896; d January 23, 1916); d March 8, 1973; both are buried in the Hall Cemetery, Limestone County, Alabama.

T.3
ELIZABETH WILLETT of Courtland, Lawrence County, Alabama

Elizabeth Willett was born in 1842. In 1860, she is living in the James Materson family (1860 Lawrence County census).

T.4
WILLETT family

There was a Willett family who had the following children.

1. Robinson (Bob) Malcolm: b 1832 in Tennessee, or possibly Arkansas; m 1st Elizabeth (Betsy) Langley Graham (b April 23, 1823, in Kentucky), the widow of John Graham of Iowa; m 2d in 1895 in Bienville Parish, Louisiana, Mrs. Elizabeth (McBeth) Jennings (b April 15, 1854, Mississippi), the widow of Robert W. Jennings (d 1893). See next T.4.1.

2. Jim: b abt 1825, possibly in Tennessee; m Nancy Lewter; she was the daughter of Kinchen Lewter (of Chatham County, North Carolina) and Elizabeth Brown (of Wahalak, Kemper County, Mississippi) and the sister of Martha Theresa Jane Lewter; they lived in either Arkansas or Louisiana, and had children.

3. (son): b abt 1838; lived to be an adult.

T.4.1
ROBINSON MALCOLM WILLETT
of Ouachita County, Arkansas, and Bienville Parish, Louisiana

Robinson (Bob) Malcolm Willett was born in 1832 in Tennessee, or possibly Arkansas. He married 1st on March 12, 1852, at Union County, Arkansas, Elizabeth (Betsy) Langley Graham (b April 23, 1823, in Kentucky), the widow of John Graham of Iowa. Elizabeth Langley had married John Graham on October 20, 1840, at the home of her parents in Union County, Arkansas. In August, 1850, John Graham died of pneumonia while building a mill on the Des Monies River.

Robinson Willett and Elizabeth Langley Graham Willett must have left for Bienville Parish, Louisiana, immediately after their marriage. However, in 1860, they were living in Ouachita County, Arkansas. (1860 Ouachita County, Arkansas, census).

Robinson Willett became the stepfather of the following Graham children: 1. William Graham: died young; 2. Bolen Graham: died young; 3. Lucinda Graham: died young; 4. Jasper Newton Graham: b 1848 in Texas (he is listed as a Willett in the 1860 Ouachita County, Arkansas, census); 5. John Wesley Graham: b 1851, in Arkansas, 7 months after the death of his father (he is listed as a Willett in the 1860 Ouachita County, Arkansas, census).

Elizabeth Langley Graham Willett died in the woods near her home at Friendship, Bienville Parish, Louisiana, on October 18, 1890. She was away visiting; in the late afternoon, she started home and just as she came to a log along a short cut, she died. The people she left thought she had made it home safe, and the home folks thought she was still visiting. She was found unexpectedly along the trail; it is thought she died of a heart attack (from Mrs. Belle Jennings Price, stepdaughter).

Robinson Malcolm Willett married 2d in 1895 in Bienville Parish, Louisiana, Mrs. Elizabeth Mc(Beth) Jennings (b April 15, 1854, Mississippi), the widow of Robert W. Jennings. Robinson Willett had one son by Elizabeth:

Mrs. Belle Jennings Price was the step-daughter of Robinson Malcom Willett. She had this to say about her mother.

> "In those days widows had a hard time supporting a family. So my mother married my step-father even if he was much older than she. His daughter was older than mother. All of his children were grown. None lived with us. I only knew Elbert, Jesse, and Lee" (from Mrs. Jennings Price, step-daughter).

Mrs. Jennings brought with her 4 stepchildren: 1. Alma Jennings; 2. Emma Jennings; 3. Fred Jennings: b August 2, 1896; 4. Belle Jennings: m Price.

1. Samantha Rebecca: b July 5, 1853, at Bienville Parish, Louisiana; m abt 1875, W. M. Hogue; d of earsiples on July 28, 1877, in Bienville Parish; buried in the Friendship, B. C. Cemetery. (1860 Ouachita County, Arkansas, census).

1. (infant): b 1877, in Bienville Parish, stillborn.

2. Henry: b 1854, Bienville Parish, Louisiana. (1860 Ouachita County, Arkansas, census).

3. James Robert: b abt 1859 in Ouachita County, Arkansas; m abt 1880 (wife's name unknown). (1860 Ouachita County, Arkansas, census). See next T.4.1.3.

4. Ben: b abt 1860; died of cancer abt age 20; unmarried.

5. Jessie: b abt 1862; m Mattie; resided in Zion, Grant Parish, Louisiana; resides in Rochelle, Louisiana.

1. Lillie:

2. Fannie:

6. Lee: b abt 1865; m and resided in Union County? Arkansas; he and his family came to Arkansas to spend one Christmas with his father.

7. Elbert: b abt 1867; m Ira, a widow, with one daughter; no issue; divorced; he worked a planer mill in DeRidder, Louisiana, and a splinter flew off and hit him in the mouth, stuck in his tongue, and he died from infection.

8. Carl: b August 2, 1896; d 1962 at West Monroe, Ouachita Parish, Louisiana.

1. Dorothy: m Curtis Robert, the son of Eli Robert of West Monroe, Louisiana; they reside at Route 8, Box 139, West Monroe, Louisiana, 71291.

T.4.1.3
JAMES ROBERT WILLETT of Ouachita County, Alabama

James Robert Willett was born about 1859 in Ouachita County, Arkansas. He must have married about 1880; his wife's name is unknown. (1860 Ouachita County, Arkansas, census).

1. Odis Patterson: b September 28 or 29, 1889; m March 31, 1923, Sallie Bert Lamkin (b August 17, 1894; d March 9, 1981; buried Prospect Church Cemetery, Jackson Parish, Louisiana), the daughter of Pierce Redwine Pierce and Mattie Ola Allen; resided in or around Jonesboro, Louisiana; d December 25, 1961, in Louisiana.

    1. Sarah Ellen: b abt 1925.

    2. Dorothy Fern: b abt 1927.

    3. Barbara Ann: b abt 1930.

    4. Robert Pierce: b abt 1932; lived in Clay, Louisiana; resides in Shreveport.

T.5
L. D. WILLETT of Rascors, Dallas County, Alabama

L. D. Willett was born in 1820 in South Carolina (or, according to the 1880 census, North Carolina). At some point, either he or his parents removed to Tennessee. He married, probably in Tennessee, about 1840 L. E. (b 1828 in Alabama). They were still living in Tennessee in 1843, but had settled in Alabama by 1845.

However, he must have married a second time, because in 1880, his wife was Sarah (b 1845 in North Carolina).(1850, 1880 Dallas County, Alabama, census).

1. R. P: b 1841 in Tennessee. (1850 Rascors, Dallas County, Alabama, census).

2. T. L: b 1843 in Tennessee. (1850 Rascors, Dallas County, Alabama, census).

3. Rachel: b 1845 in Alabama. (1850 Rascors, Dallas County, Alabama, census).

4. Cat: b 1848 in Alabama. (1850 Rascors, Dallas County, Alabama, census).

5. J. R: b early in 1850 in Alabama. (1850 Rascors, Dallas County, Alabama, census).

6. Logan: b 1862 in Alabama. (1880 Orrville, Dallas County, Alabama, census).

7. M. L: b 1870 in Alabama. (1880 Orrville, Dallas County, Alabama, census).

8. B. A: b 1874 in Alabama. (1880 Orrville, Dallas County, Alabama, census).

T.6
ALLEN WILLETT and SARAH of Franklin County, Alabama

Allen Willett was born in 1834 in Alabama. He married about 1855 Sarah (b 1833 in Alabama). In 1860, they were living in either Tuscumbia or Russellville, Franklin County, Alabama.
(1860 Franklin County, Alabama, census).

1. Enoch P: b 1857 in Alabama. (1860 Franklin County, Alabama, census).

2. Allen W: b 1859 in Alabama. (1860 Franklin County, Alabama, census).

T.7
JOSHUA C. WILLETT and MAHALA GILBERT of Steward, Georgia

Joshua C. Willett was born in 1806 in North Carolina. About 1830, he married Mahala Gilbert (b 1805 or 1806 in North Carolina; d October 21, 1872, buried in Dawson, Georgia). They moved to Steward, Georgia, about the same time; soon after their marriage they had settled permenantly in the Providence Wesley Chapel area at Providence Canyons. He was a blacksmith and mechanic by trade.
In January, 1836, Joshua Willett attended the sale of the estate of James T. White; in January, 1836, the sale of the estate of John G. White; and in March, 1839, the sale of the estate of Samuel Williams. In 1841, Joshua Willett was listed in the tax digest. On October 31, 1849, Joshua joined the Wesley Chapel Lodge No. 108 (Masons).
He and his family are in the 1850 census for Steward County, Georgia. All of the children of Joshua C. and Mahala Gilbert Willett went to Arkansas by wagon train except Bryant Bedingfield. (History of Steward County, page 1066).
Joshua's wife died and he went to live with his children in Arkansas. He died on December 14, 1885 while there on a visit. He is buried at Wesley Chapel, Stewart County, Georgia. It is stated that he died at the home of his eldest son, Caswell Willett, of Murfreesboro, Arkansas. However, Joshua's bible does not mention a son Caswell, and in the Biographical and Historical Memiors of Southern Arkansas, 1890, Caswell's father is stated as being Charles Willett (S.1.3.5) of Chatham County, North Carolina (until 1833), and Monroe County, Georgia (until Charles's death in 1866).
(History of Steward, Georgia, page 341; and page 554 for Joshua Willett Bible record; 1850 Lumpkin District, Stewart County, Georgia, census).

1. John Edwin: b September 24, 1833; d between 1861-1865; killed in the Civil War. (1850 Lumpkin District, Stewart County, Georgia, census).

2. Emily Farish: b February 23, 1836; m December 30, 1855, Thomas Turner Langley House (b September 26, 1837; d October 25, 1918). About 1876, they moved to Murfreesboro, Arkansas. (1850 Lumpkin District, Stewart County, Georgia, census).

1. Emma House: b 1858.

2. Joseph W. House: b 1859.

3. Ann America: b August 5, 1838; m April 2, 1865, James Thomas Goldin(g). (1850 Lumpkin District, Stewart County, Georgia, census).

4. Mary Jane: b July 27, 1841; m abt 1862 Thomas Barrett. (1850 Lumpkin District, Stewart County, Georgia, census).

1. Solon Barrett: b abt 1866.

5. Bryant Bedingfield: b March 24, 1844, in Stewart County, Georgia; m February 26, 1890, Martha (Mattie) Lucerner Stanley. He was a member of the Providence Methodist Church, Steward, Georgia, from 1893 to 1901. Her sister, Mrs. Clara O. (Stanley) Solomon helped to raise Clara, Pearl and Bessie Willett. Bryant Willett died Febuary 26, 1890 and is buried in the Providence Cemetery, Steward, Georgia. (History of Steward, Georgia, page 195). See next T.7.5.

6. Willie Augusta: b December 10, 1846; m January 24, 1867, Alvin James Foreman. (1850 Lumpkin District, Stewart County, Georgia, census).

1. Thurber Marvin Foreman: b abt 1868.

2. Nettie Vorus Foreman: b abt 1870.

3. Willie Jane Foreman: b November 28, 1871; m July 31, 1895, Robert Marcelle Fillinghamer of Springdale, Georgia; d October 25, 1970, at Morris, Georgia.

4. Ida Mae Foreman: b abt 1873.

T.7.5
BRYANT BEDINGFIELD WILLETT and MARTHA LUCERNER STANLEY
of Stewart County, Georgia

Bryant Bedingfield Willett was born on March 24, 1844, in Stewart County, Georgia; m February 26, 1890, Martha (Mattie) Lucerner Stanley (b March 7, 1844, in Halton, Maine; d February 16, 1929). She was a member of the Providence Methodist Church, Steward, Georgia, from 1893 to 1901. Her sister, Mrs. Clara O. (Stanley) Solomon helped to raise Clara, Pearl and Bessie Willett.

Bryant Willett died on February 26, 1890 and is buried in the Providence Cemetery, Steward, Georgia.

(History of Steward, Georgia, page 195; 1850 Lumpkin, Stewart County, Georgia).

1. Clara Octavia: b November 8, 1874, in Lumpkin, Stewart County, Georgia; m abt 1896 George Washington Pugh; d March 8, 1965; buried in Lumpkin, Stewart County, Georgia; d March 8, 1965.

1. George Washington Pugh, Jr: b April, 1898; d July 31, 1971.

2. Edgar Willett Pugh (Bubba): b June 28, 1900.

3. Emma Louise Pugh: b June 27, 1904; d June 22, 1968.

4. Virginia Pugh: b abt 1908; m Varner; d 1937.

5. Floyd Houser Pugh: b abt 1910; m February 7, 1935, Dorothy Hall; d 1956.

6. Dr. C. Marion Pugh: b November 1, 1913.

7. Blevins Pugh: b October 15, 1917.

2. Stanley Arthur: b May 12, 1876, in Lumpkin, Stewart County, Georgia; m abt 1903 in Coleman near Lumpkin, Georgia, Suana Eulalia Bailey (b October 1, 1878, in Coleman, Stewart County, Georgia; d March 24, 1937); d August 8, 1939. See next T.7.5.2.

3. Rowena Lola: b June 13, 1877; m Arthur Joiner; d June 11, 1914; no issue.

4. Pearl: b October 17, 1878; m Floyd M. Houser.

5. Bryant Edward (Eddie): b May 14, 1880; m September 24, 1905, Fannie Leshe; d March 12, 1936. See next T.7.5.5.

6. Mittie Jester: b September 9, 1882; m George Wilton Huggins (b March 9, 1875; d October 31, 1951) of Louisanna; d April 15, 1964, near Ringgold, Louisiana; buried in Sacial Springs Cemetery.

1. Fannie Elizabeth H. Boyet Huggins: b January 24, 1916.

2. George Wilton Huggins, Jr: b September 11, 1920.

7. Bessie Emily: b October 8, 1884; m Birdit Finch Stubbs (b January 19, 1879); d December 3, 1932, buried in the Lumpkin Cemetery, Steward, Georgia.

T.7.5.2
STANLEY ARTHUR WILLETT and EULA BAILEY of Georgia

Stanley Arthur Willett was born on May 12, 1876, in Lumpkin, Stewart County, Georgia. He married in Coleman near Lumpkin, Georgia, on December 17, (abt) 1903, Susan Eulalia Bailey (b October 1, 1878, in Coleman, Stewart County, Georgia; d March 24, 1937).
Stanley Willett died on August 8, 1939.

1. Bryant Stanley: b March 6, 1905, in Pelham, Michel County, Georgia; m in Macon, Georgia, August 2, 1941, Allowee Paulk; no children.

2. Clara Lola: b November 8, 1906, in Cecil, Montgomery County, Alabama; m April 11, 1925, Henry Earnest Barrow (b October 18, 1943, at Bluff Springs, Escambia County, Florida).

1. Larence Henry Barrow: b December 25, 1926, at Bluff Springs, Escambia County, Florida; m Betty Ann Starrett.

2. Ernest Lloyd Barrow: b July 19, 1928, at Bluff Springs, Escambia County, Florida.

3. Edward Arthur Barrow: b January 12, 1930, Bluff Springs, Escambia County, Florida.

3. Rachel Evelyn Washburn: b December 29, 1909, at Mount Meggs, Montgomery County, Alabama; m at Milton, Santa Rosa County, Florida, on October 18, 1931, George W. Mashburn.

1. Mildred Kathryn Mashburn: b July 28, 1935, at Pensacola, Escambia County, Florida; m March 15, 1957, Clark Compton Bugbee.

4. Eula Mae: b August 25, 1911, in Cecil, Montgomery County, Alabama; m October 18, 1930, Owen Pulaski Renfroe.

1. Amy Adelaide Renfroe: b January 22, 1937.

5. Myrtle Louise: b September 15, 1913, at Perry's Mill, Montgomery County, Alabama; m August 30, 1932, Elmo (Moe) Allred (d August 23, 1971, in Billings, Montana).

6. Henry Arthur: b June 2, 1915, at Perry's Mill, Montgomery County, Alabama; m at Valdosta, Georgia, on November 29, 1934, Floys Smith (d January 26, 1943, Albany, Georgia); d April 17, 1973, at Carrollton, Georgia. See next T.7.5.2.6.

7. Walter Bailey: b December 25, 1917, at Bluff Springs, Escambia County, Florida; m at her home in Poplar Dell Community, Bluff Springs, Escambia County, Florida, on August 19, 1939, Allah Florene Bolen.

1. Patricia Ann: b in Century, Escambia County, Florida, July 1, 1942.

2. Linda Faye: b in Pensacola, Escambia County, Florida.

8. Ralph Harold: b January 27, 1920, at Bluff Springs, Escambia County, Florida; m at Gainsville, Texas, on January 4, 1958, Mildred (Mickey) F. Gibson; divorced at Fort Worth, Texas, on August 23, 1965; m 2d July 21, 1967, Ruth Skidmore; divorced on February 1, 1968; no issue.

1. Ralph Harold: b August 18, 1958, at Albany, Georgia.

2. Marquita Kathleen: b July 21, 1959, at Lincoln, Nebraska.

3. Dalton Shawn: b June 10, 1962.

9. Lawrence Pugh: b July 6, 1922, at Bluff Springs, Escambia County, Florida; d July 9, 1922.

T.7.5.2.6
HENRY ARTHUR WILLETT and FLOYS SMITH of Georgia

Henry Arthur Willett was born on June 2, 1915, at Perry's Mill, Montgomery County, Alabama. He married 1st at Valdosta, Georgia, on November 29, 1934, Floys Smith (d January 26, 1943, Albany, Georgia).

Henry Arthur Willett married 2d at Rossville, Georgia, on December 5, 1943, Elizabeth Bonner. He died on April 17, 1973, at Carrollton, Georgia.

1. Henry Arthur, Jr: b August 30, 1936, at Albany, Georgia; m in Century, Florida, on June 12, 1956, Glenda Fay Worley.

    1. Ralph Michael: b October 15, 1957, at Pensacola, Escambia County, Florida.

    2. Cynthia Diane: b January 5, 1960, at Pensacola, Escambia County, Florida.

    3. Susan Lynn: b April 26, 1963, at Pensacola, Escambia County, Florida.

2. Walter Stanley: b January 19, 1943; m Evelyn.

    1. Wanda Gail: b July 2, 1969, in Alabama.

    2. Greg Hayes: b August 31, 1970; d April 11, 1971.

3. Pamela Elizabeth: b May 28, 1946, at Newman, Georgia; m at Bushy Creek Church, Ocilla, Georgia, on February 2, 1963, Bruce Daniels.

    1. William (Bill) Bruce Daniels: b June 25, 1964.

    2. Anthony Craig Daniels: b October 29, 1966.

    3. Debora Leah Daniels: b July 16, 1971.

T.7.5.5
BRYANT EDWARD WILLETT and FANNIE LESHE of Georgia

Bryant Edward (Eddie) Willett was born on May 14, 1880. He married on September 24, 1905, Fannie Leshe (b December 17, 1885; d November 11, 1964), the daughter of Mary Jane and Usir Leshe.

> "The Willetts purchased the first farm of Joe Leshe and settled down to farming. Bryant Willett was a hard worker and proved to be a good farmer. He always maintained a fine team of mules and a good wagon. In addition to growing cotton, he grew a good corn crop, peanut crop, and always harvested an ample supply of wheats and oats.
>
> He grew hogs to supply his meat and lard, and slaughtered a beef now and then that was culled from the offspring of his milk cows. He appeared kind and considerate of Fannie's wishes. She enjoyed "going" and he complied with her desires. They were members of and loyal supporters of the Springhill Baptist Church. Both were laid to rest in the Springhill Cemetery. When their children reached high school, the Willets purchased a home and moved to the village of Hall Summit, where most of their children finished high school" (An Irish Stowaway, 1976, page 136).

He died on March 12, 1936.

1. Grace Edwiline: b August 3, 1906; d September 7, 1906.

2. James Arthur: b July 9, 1908; finished high school in Hall Summit and attended Centenary College; he farmed and was a machinist; m 1st 1940 Jessie Lee Nutt (d 1943); m 2d on April 27, 1946, Lillian Russell. See next T.7.5.5.2.

2. Bryant Leshe: b August 16, 1910; unmarried; died in a boiler explosion on October 22, 1943.

3. Mary Lou: b July 17, 1912; attended Northwestern State University; d October 18, 1945; unmarried; buried next to her parents in Springhill Cemetery.

4. Virginia Joyce: b November 10, 1917; m February 1, 1947, James D. Litton; reside in Hall Summit, Louisana.

5. Frank Floyce: b March 5, 1919; m July 25, 1936, Donald E. Julian.

1. Lana Janette Julian: b March 9, 1947; m April 23, 1971, Robert Bourg.

2. Donna Virginia Julian: b April 2, 1950; m December 22, 1968, Wilson James Johnson.

6. Cleve Alan: b March 20, 1926; received M. S. degree in agriculture from Louisana State University; m February 1, 1947, Frances Eichelburger.

1. Bryant Frank: b November 15, 1948; in the U. S. Navy; m June 7, 1969, Barbara Bergeron.

1. Dawn Michele: b July 29, 1971.

2. Rhonda Sharon: b December 21, 1950; m September 6, 1969, William J. Hebert.

1. Frances Elizabeth Hebert: b February 5, 1972.

3. Cleve Allen, Jr: b July 13, 1954.

4. Ronald Alan, Jr: b August 28, 1957.

T.7.5.5.2
JAMES ARTHUR WILLETT of Georgia

James Arthur Willett was born on July 9, 1908. He finished high school in Hall Summit and attended Centenary College. He farmed and was a machinist.

James married 1st 1940 Jessie Lee Nutt (d 1943). He married 2d on April 27, 1946, Lillian Russell.

1. Gloria Joyce: b March 26, 1942; m May 22, 1959, Russell Thomas, Jr.

1. Shawnye Lisha Thomas: b December 5, 1960.

2. Rosalind Marie Thomas: b March 23, 1963.

2. Mary Ellen: b March 13, 1947; m April 8, 1966, William D. Hancock.

3. Jamesina Marie: b March 3, 1948; m Donnie Lee.

1. Lori Ann Lee: b April 17, 1967.

2. Lesly Carol Lee: b November 25, 1968.

3. Donald Lee:

4. Stephen Lee:

4. Bessie Louise: b August 28, 1949; m Marvin Allums.

1. Tommy Lynn Allums: b October 11, 1969.

2. Cheryl Denise Allums: b August 19, 1971.

5. Rebecca Lee: b March 16, 1954; m September 9, 1972, Thomas Page.

1. Kelly Page: b October 9, 1974.

T.8

GEORGE M. WILLETT and MARIA B. BARTHELOMEW of Savannah, Georgia

George M. Willett was born on November 3, 1817, in Milford, Hunterdon County, New Jersey. His story is taken up here, since he spent his whole life in Savannah.

He married on March 29, 1839, Maria B. Barthelomew (b October 26, 1820, in Savannah, Georgia).

(Family Bible Record of George M. Willett and Maria B. Willett, at the Georgia State Archives, Atlanta, Georgia; 1850, 1860 census Chatham County, Georgia).

> "George M. Willett Dead: The man who built the first passenger coach for the Central Railroad, George M. Willett, an old and well known citizen, died yesterday (March 20, 1901), at 2 o'clock from heart failure. He was taken suddenly ill Thursday morning on his way from the market and was carried to his residence.
>
> Mr. Willett was a native of New Jersey and came to Savannah in 1836, and has resided here ever since. Before the war he ran a large brickyard and was a man of means, which dwindled considerably by reason of the war and failure of a number of investments in the west. He and W. O. Charlton were the two oldest employees of the Central Railroad. Mr. Willett served in the capacity of master carpenter and superintended the building of the first passenger coach that ever went over the Central Railroad. He also ran a factory for the manufacture of wood for agricultural implements, wheels, doors, etc., at Montgomery, in which venture he lost considerable money.

Mr. Willett was quite and eccentric, but at all times good company and a genial companion. He was 73 years old, and leaves a son, George M. Willett, with the City and Suburn Railroad Company, and three married daughters, all residing in Savannah" (clipping from unknown newspaper, on file at the State Archives, Atlanta, Georgia).

1. Henry Milford: b September 11, 1841, in Savannah, Georgia; died an infant on May 30, 1841, in Savannah, Georgia, age 8 months and 19 days.

2. Sarah Catherine: b April 14, 1842, in Savannah, Georgia; died an infant on November 2, 1842, age 6 months and 19 days.

3. Ellen Irene: b December 28, 1843, in Savannah, Georgia. (1850, 1860 census).

4. Laura Matilda: b March 9, 1847, in Savannah, Georgia. (1850, 1860 census).

5. Georgia Elizabeth: b September 10, 1849, in Savannah, Georgia; m July 21, 1872, William W. Metzer; d February 10, 1910, in Savannah, Georgia. (1850, 1860 census).

6. George M: b February 24, 1851, in Savannah, Georgia. (1860 census).

7. Emma Florence: b January 27, 1853, in Savannah, Georgia. (1860 census).

T.9
HENRY WILLETT of Georgia

Henry Willett was a member of Captain John Newsom's Militia Company in Wilkes County, Georgia, on October 2, 1793.

Henry R. S. Willett was mentioned in the 1820 Effingham County, Georgia, land lottery.

T.10
HENRY WILLETT and POLLY PRICE of Jefferson County, Georgia

Henry Willett was born about 1790. He married on July 19, 1812, in Jefferson County, Georgia, Polly Brice. (37,000 Early Georgia Marriages, page 145).

T.11
BENJAMIN WILLETT and NANCY BRYANT of Monroe County, Georgia

Benjamin Willett was born about 1805. He married on April 4, 1829, in Monroe County, Georgia, Nancy Bryant. (37,000 Early Georgia Marriages, page 195).

T.12
ENOCH WILLETT and MARTHA ANN WILLIAMS of Muscogee County, Georgia

Enoch Willett was born about 1825. He married on December 26, 1847, in Muscogee County, Georgia, Martha Ann Williams. (37,000 Early Georgia Marriages, page 208).

T.13
ISAIAH WILLETT and SARAH MADDOX of Muscogee County, Georgia

Isaiah Willett was born about 1815. He married on March 17, 1850, in Muscogee County, Georgia, Sarah Maddox. (37,000 Early Georgia Marriages, page 208).

T.14
DAVID WILLET and ELIZABETH of Tallahatie County, Mississippi

David Willet was born in 1810 in New York. He married in 1839 Elizabeth (b 1824 in Mississippi). (1850 Tallahatie County, Mississippi, census).

1. John: b 1840 in Alabama.

T.15
J. M. WILLETT of Tallahatchie County, Mississippi

J. M. Willett was born in 1813, in Alabama. He married about 1835 Jane (b 1815 in Tennessee). (1850 Tallahatchie County, Mississippi, census).

1. William: b 1848 in Mississippi. (1850 Tallachatchie County, Mississippi, census).

T.16
RICHARD W. WILLET and ELIZABETH of Tishmongo County, Mississippi

Richard W. Willot (sic) was born in 1803 in Tennessee. He married about 1835 Elizabeth (b 1814 in Tennessee). He was a farmer living in Tishmongo County, Mississippi. (1860 Tishmongo County, Mississippi, census).

1. Thomas R: b 1850 in Alabama. (1860 Tishmongo County, Mississippi, census).

2. Martha: b 1853 in Alabama. (1860 Tishmongo County, Mississippi, census).

T.17
B. G. WILLETTS of Wilkinson County, Mississippi

B. G. Willetts was born in 1831 in Kentucky. In 1860, he was an overseer in Wilkinson County, Mississippi. (1860 Wilkinson County, Mississippi, census).

T.18
DAVID WILLET of Harrison County, Mississippi

David Willet was born in 1820 in New York. He married about 1845 Elizabeth (b 1834 in Mississippi). In 1860, he was a carpenter living in Harrison County, Mississippi. (1860 Harrison County, Mississippi, census).

1. John: b 1850 in Alabama. (1860 Harrison County, Mississippi, census).

T.19
SAMUEL WILLETT of St. Michael's Parish, South Carolina

Samuel Willett lived in South Carolina in the mid 1700s. Samuel died in 1767. Katherine Willett, as the nearest kin, administered his estate on April 4, 1767.
(South Carolina Historical and Genealogical Magazine, Volume 24, 1923, page 103).

T.20
GEORGE STONE WILLETT of Charles County, Maryland

George Stone Willett was living in Charles County, Maryland during the Revolutionary War period. He must have been born at least by 1770 and possibly much earlier. He is called Doctor and is reputed to have married twice, with a son Charles of the 1st marriage. His 2d wife is reputed to have been Hester Roberts. George Willett's will is dated November, 1826.

1. Charles:

2. Benjamin: b abt 1795; d unmarried.

3. Letty: b abt 1797; m 1st Mr. Owens; m 2d Mr. Rhodes.

4. George Stone: b abt 1800 in Charles County, Maryland; m abt 1825 Elizabeth; d abt 1857. See next T.20.4.

T.20.4
GEORGE STONE WILLETT and ELIZABETH ROBERTSON
of White Plains, Charles County, Maryland

George Stone Willett was born about 1800. About 1825, he married Mrs. Elizabeth Robertson, the daughter of Benjamin Adams and Elizabeth Smallwood. He purchased land in Charles County, Maryland, in 1828; they were living in White Plains, Charles County, Maryland, in 1850. He sold part of his land in 1857; the remainder he seems to have deeded to his children in the same year (1857); and evidently died about the same time. (1850 Charles County, Maryland, census).

1. Hezekiah E: b 1826. (1850 Charles County, Maryland, census).

2. Richard H: b 1828. (1850 Charles County, Maryland, census).

3. Lucy A: b 1832 Charles County, Maryland. (1850 Charles County, Maryland, census).

4. Benjamin: b 1833. (1850 Charles County, Maryland, census).

5. Robert Wilson: b 1834, at White Plains, Charles County, Maryland; m March 22, 1870, Mary Elizabeth Cox; d April 11, 1890, at LaPlace, Piatt County, Illinois. (1850 Charles County, Maryland, census). See next T.20.4.5.

6. James L: b November 7, 1835, Charles County, Maryland; m in Decatur, Illinois, August 30, 1861, Margaret Cox (she was a sister of Elizabeth Cox); d January 15, 1896, at Hebron, Kansas.

7. Joseph M: b 1835; d November 28, 1844, Charles County, Maryland.

8. Betty: b 1838 Charles County, Maryland. (1850 Charles County, Maryland, census).

9. Letty: b 1839 Charles County, Maryland. (1850 Charles County, Maryland, census).

T.20.4.5
ROBERT WILSON WILLETT and MARY ELIZABETH COX of Piatt County, Illinois

Robert Wilson Willett was born in July, 16, 1835, at White Plains, Charles County, Maryland. He received land in Charles County, Maryland, in 1857, (most likely) from his father's estate; evidently he sold this to his eldest brother, Hezekiah, in the same year. He married in LaPlace, Illinois, on March 22, 1870, Mary Elizabeth Cox (b July 16, 1847, at Currituck; d November 1, 1926, in Fairbury, Jefferson County, Nebraska). Robert Willett died on April 11, 1890, at LaPlace, Piatt County, Illinois.

1. Blanche: b July 6, 1871.

2. Emma Estelle: b March 13, 1878.

3. Leila Evelyn: b July 6, (abt) 1880.

4. Alice: b October 1, 1881.

5. Robert Edgar: b March 7, 1884, in Norfolk, Virginia; m October 25, 1910, Elizabeth White; d May 10, 1934, at Wellington, Sumner County, Kansas. See next T.20.4.5.5.

6. William Ernest: b August 4, 1886.

T.20.4.5.5
ROBERT EDGAR WILLETT and ELIZABETH WHITE of Kansas and Idaho

Robert Edgar Willett was born on March 7, 1884, in Norfolk, Virginia. He was a professional baseball player in the early 1900s, playing for the Detriot Tigers in the World Series 1907-1909. Ty Cobb was often his roomate. Robert Edgar Willett married on October 25, 1910, Elizabeth White (b February 17, 1888, St. Louis, Missouri; d February 13, 1953, at St. Louis, Missouri), the daughter of Patrick Joseph White and Charlotte Kelly.

1. Robert Edgar: b October 31, 1920, at Rexberg, Idaho; m July 9, 1942, Marion Frances Bair (b December 19, 1921, St. Louis, Missouri; February 15, 1981, Laguna Niguel, California); d May 26, 1978, at Laguna, Nigel, California. See next T.20.4.5.1.1.

2. John Lee:

T.20.4.5.5.1
ROBERT EDGAR WILLETT and MARION FRANCES BAIR of Illinois and California

Robert Edgar Willett was born on October 31, 1920, at Rexberg, Idaho. He married on July 9, 1942, Marion Frances Bair (b December 19, 1921, St. Louis, Missouri; February 15, 1981, Laguna Niguel, California).
Robert Willett died on May 26, 1978, at Laguna, Nigel, California.

1. Mary Ann: b May 24, 1943, in St. Louis, Missouri; m August 7, 1976, at Houston, Texas, Robert Joseph Tantillo (b January 12, 1942, at Galveston, Texas).

1. Matthew Thomas Tantillo: b February 6, 1978, at Houston, Harris County, Texas.

T.21
WALKER W. WILLETT and LIEURAINER RAWLINGS
of Flemingsburg, Fleming County, Kentucky

Walker W. Willett was born about 1825. He married at Elizabeth Rawling's home (sister to Lieurainer), on January 9, 1846, near Mount Carmel, Lieurainer Rawlings (b January 4, 1828, near Flemingburg, Fleming County, Kentucky), the daughter of Jonathan Rawlings and Nancy Hornbuckle.
(Cooper and Allied Families, W. F. Cooper, 1906).

1. Betty: b abt 1847; m John D. Gardner.

2. John Dorsey: b abt 1850; m 1878 near Flemingburg, Dorindon Thomas.

1. Harvey: b abt 1879.

2. Dorsey: b abt 1872.

3. Luta: b abt 1852; m February, 1901, Alexander Girvin; resided near Johnson's Junction, Kentucky.

4. Mary: b abt 1855; m September 20, 1868, Columbus Wallingford; resided near Mound Valley, Linn County, Kansas.

6. Nancy: b abt 1867; m at Marysville, Marshall County, Kansas, 1891 John D.Gardner; resided at Gardner, Johnson County, Kansas (just south of Kansas City).

7. William: b abt 1870; m Matilda Shepperd near Fairview, Kenton County, Kentucky.

CHAPTER TWENTY-ONE
A SURVEY OF WILLETT FAMILIES OF TENNESSEE

Tennessee was first used as a name in 1730 by the Scottish advenurer Sir Alexander Cuming. But, it was a young British officer, Henry Timberlake, who first used it in 1761 to describe the whole region which was then populated by the Cherokee Indians. White explorers had tranversed the region since the time of Hernando de Soto in 1540; however, the white presence was one of the fur trapper and the trader, not the permanent settler. Spain, France, and Britain all claimed the region. In 1763, at the Treaty of Paris, the French surrender all their claims of land in the region to British. In 1769, William Bean of Virginia became the first permanent white settler in Tennessee when he built his cabin on the Watauga River near the present North Carolina border. Other settlers soon followed from Virginia and North Carolina. The Tennessee region belonged to North Carolina, but a vast, rugged set of mountains separated it from its parent colony and Tennessee received scant aide from its mother state.. In 1772, settlers in Tennessee formed a government of theirr owned called the Watagua Association. This group drew up the first written constitution adopted west of the Allegheny Mountains.

A group of land speculators formed the Transylvania Company in the early 1770s. In 1775, these men bought a large area from the Cherokees which included parts of Tennessee and Kentucky. Daniel Boone blazed the "Wilderness Trail" across the Allegheny's and through the Cumberland Gap so that new settlers could reach the new land. The end of the Revolution open the way for a population in need of land to migrate westward. Land in the western counties of Virginia and Pennsylvania, now the states of Ohio, and Kentucky, had in many cases been granted as bounty to the soldiers of the Revolutionary War. Many of the these families, particularly the children and widows of these old soldiers, began moving west and taking up the bounty land that they had been granted. John Donelson led pioneers from Fort Patrick Henry, near Kingsport, in 1779, and after 16 months of travel these pioneers arrived at the Big Salt Lick (presently Nashville).

Statehood was granted to Tennessee on June 1, 1796. John Sevier, the former governor of the independent State of Franklin (1784-1788), was elected as its first governor. Andrew Jackson, later President, had served on the convention which adopted the state's first constitution. James K. Polk, also would become President, and served in th 1820s in the Tennessee House of Representatives. Andrew Johnson, another President to be, served a variety of state offices between 1829 and 1847. Until 1818, the Cherokee held a large area in Middle Tennessee, and a smaller tract south of the Sequatchie and Little Tennessee rivers in East Tennessee; the Chichasaw owned nearly all of West Tennessee until 1818, when they too ceded their land to the federal government. Davy Crockett was a colorful scout and frontiersman who served as a Congressman from Tennessee in 1826, 1828, and 1832.

Willett families were among the earliest of pioneers. Many Willett families came to Tennessee in the 1830-1860 period and some most likely had arrived at a much earlier date. There had been a great migration of pioneers, farmers, and ordinary folk during this period. The lands east of the Applachians were already taken up and owned, and the good farm lands were beginning to be worn out through (what today we would call) poor crop management. As the press of white settlers came into close contact with the last of the Cherokee Indians, the situation of conflict developed that led to the infamous "trail of tears" march in 1838 as the Cherokees were forcibly removed to the relatively barren lands west of the Mississippi River.

Some of the Willett families listed below are probably closely related, and others are immigrants from Kentucky, Virginia, North Carolina, Pennsylvania and other states. They are being mentioned here because each lived in Tennessee in this early period, and any tradition or claim to being a Virginian or Pennsylvanian has not been yet proven.

U.1
NATHANIEL WILLETT and REBECCA PRUDENCE BENSON
of Wayne County, Tennessee, and Jackson County, Alabama,
and Calhoun County, Arkansas

Nathaniel Willett was born in 1814. His place of birth is variously reported as Tennessee (in the 1850 census), Kentucky, or Ireland (family tradition believes he may have come from Ireland to America in 1822 with his mother, Mary Willett). Most census records of his son, William Joseph, state that he is born in Kentucky. However, family oral history says that he was an Irishman.

He married about 1834, possibly in Wayne County, Tennessee. At least, he is in the 1840 census for Wayne County, Tennessee, with his 1st wife (wife name unknown) and one son under 5. Wayne County borders Alabama; its county seat is Waynesboro.

How, when, and why Nathaniel removed to Jackson County, Alabama, or what became of his first wife, is unknown. Nathaniel Willett married in 1849 in Jackson County, Alabama, Prudence Benson (b 1834 in McMinn County, Tennessee), the daughter of Benjamin Benson (b 1794, Raleigh, North Carolina) and Prudence Clifton (b 1793 in Tennessee). Prudence Clifton was the daughter of a Cherokee Indian Chief. She taught her stepchild and her children the Cherokee language. Thus, Prudence (Benson) Willett was one-half Cherokee on her mother's side, and her children could claim a Cherokee heritage as their birthright.

Nathaniel Willett is in the 1850 census, for Jackson County, Alabama, with his 2d wife, Rebecca Prudence Benson, age 18, and one son aged 12 years. The census was taken on November 1, 1850, and lists Nathaniel Willett, age 36, male born in Tennessee, Rebecca (Benson), age 18, female, born in Alabama, and John, age 12, male born in Alabama. There is a possibly that 2 different records could be mixed here. The Nathaniel of Jackson County, Alabama (1850), and the William Joseph of Montgomery County, Arkansas (1880), may not be from the same family. Both Nathaniel Willett and his son William Joseph are reputed to have been Catholic.

(1840 Wayne County, Tennessee, census; 1850 Jackson County, Alabama, census; 1870 Calhoun County, Arkansas, census).

1. John: b 1838 in Wayne County, Tennessee. Possibly John Benson a son or relative of Rebecca Prudence Benson. (1840 Census, Wayne County, Tennessee).

2. William Joseph ("Billy Joe"): b November 22, 1850, in Jackson County, Alabama (after the census was taken); m at Calhoun County, Arkansas, on October 13, 1870, Sarah M. Drummond. See next U.1.2.

It is unknown when, or where Nathaniel Willett joined the Confederate Army. It was reputed (by his wife Rebecca Benson) that Nathaniel Willett was killed in action while serving the Confederacy. Either he, or after his death, his wife, removed the family to Calhoun County, Arkansas, where she was living in 1866. She, Rebecca Prudence (Benson) Willett (half Cherokee) married in Calhoun County, Arkansas on October 20, 1866, Andrew (Andy) Hillian. It is inconsistent, but, Rebecca Prudence Benson married on October 20, 1866, in Calhoun County, Arkansas, Andrew Hillian using her maiden name Benson; however the Hillian descendents refer to William Joseph Willett as being the son of Rebecca Benson. She is listed in the 1870 Calhoun County, Arkansas, census; but no mention of Rebecca (Benson-Willett) Hillian is found after that date.

3. Henry Hillian: b 1867 in Calhoun County, Arkansas.

4. Betty Hillian: b abt 1870 in Calhoun County, Arkansas; m abt 1890 in Indian Territory John Londagin.

5. Jesse Hillian: b 1872 in Calhoun County, Arkansas.

U.1.2
WILLIAM JOSEPH WILLETT and SARAH DRUMMONDS
of Calhoun County, Arkansas, and Okmulgee County, Oklahoma

William Joseph ("Billy Joe") Willett was born on November 22, 1850, in Jackson County, Alabama, in Township 5, Range 5, Eastern Division 20. (His daughter, Selema Isabelle (Willett) Hollander stated on his death certificate in 1931 that he was born on December 22, 1856, in Illinois). He was raised as a Catholic.

There is no mention of William Joseph (Billy Joe) Jackson for the next 20 years. It is unknown how or why he removed from his birth place of Jackson County, Alabama, to Calhoun County, Arkansas. Most likely, he came to Calhoun County, Arkansas, with his mother before 1866.

He married in Hampton, Calhoun County, Arkansas, on October 13, 1870, Sarah Margaret Drummond (b February 3, 1850, in Ripley, Tippah County, Mississippi, and died on March 4, 1913; she is buried in the Morse Cemetery, Morse, Okmulgee, Okmulgee County, Oklahoma). Her father was John Drummonds (b 1804, 96th District, South Carolina) and her mother was Nancy Oliver (b 1808, 96th District, South Carolina).

In 1880, he was living in Montgomery County, Arkansas (1880 Census, Montgomery County, Arkansas, Mazarn Township, Sheet 40, line 29).

In the fall of 1900, William Joseph and his family moved from Coal Hill, Johnson County, Arkansas, to the Cherokee Nation. They settled at Notchee Town where he farmed cotton and corn.

His great-grandparents, the Cherokee Indian Chief and his wife, had died in 1838 during the Trail of Tears march. William Joseph always was very bitter toward the Federal Government because of this. Later in life, he would not claim his head-right, or allow any of his children to file for theirs. William Joseph had learned to speak Cherokee fluently and he acted as an interpreter for the Cherokees before the Dawes Commission.

> "William Joseph Willett and his family moved to Hannah, Indian Territory, were they lived until 1905. By 1906, they had moved to Kusa, Okmulgee County, Indian Territory, where William built the first house and dug the first well in Kusa.
>
> About 1910, William moved his family to Morse, Okfuskee County, Oklahoma, where he raised cotton. Sarah Margaret (Drummond) Willett died on March 6, 1913, in Morse, and William moved back to Henryetta."

> "Having no family, he drifted for a while, going to McAlester and working in timber. By 1917, he was farming at Sunset, Okmulgee County. About 1919, when he was 69 years old, he quit keeping his own home and drifted from one of his children to the other until his death in Okmulgee on March 4, 1931. His grandson-in-law, Reece Evans, was with him and carried him on his back to the poor farm, since neither of them had the money for the hospital. William Joseph Willett is buried in the Likowski

Family Cemetery, Spring Hill (now Pharoah), Okfuskee County, Oklahoma.

William never claimed to be an Indian, although he was one-quarter Cherokee. He always told everyone he was an Irishman and did not want any handouts from the U. S. Government. Had he felt differently, perhaps, he would have died on his own claim, instead of the Okmulgee Poor Farm" (unpublished notes from Dee Willett).

He is in the 1880 Census for Montgomery County, Arkansas, Mazarn Township. He is in the 1900 Census for Hogan Township, Franklin County, Arkansas, age 49, born November, 1850, place of birth, Alabama, along with his family. He is in the 1910 Census (April 15) for Okfuskee County, Oklahoma, age 61, birth place, Alabama, along with his family.

He died on March 4, 1931, age 84 years, and is buried in the Springfield Cemetery.

1. (child): b 1871; d in infancy.

2. (child): b 1873; d in infancy.

3. Selma Isabelle ("Belle"): b October 1, 1874, in Montgomery County, Arkansas; m 1st in 1891 in Altus, Franklin County, Arkansas, "Bud" Hoffman; m 2d in Muskogee, Indian Territory, on March 29, 1905, Olie Lee Hollander. (1880 Census, Montgomery County, Arkansas).

1. Myrtle Sylvia ("Pete") Hoffman: b February, 1891, in Franklin County, Arkansas; m 1st in Muskogee, Indian Territory, on March 29, 1905, C. H. Davis; m 2d in Claremore, Rogers County, Oklahoma, in 1913, Joseph Charles Hensley.

4. Charles Edward: b 1878; d 1895, age 17, in Altus, Franklin County, Arkansas. (1880 Census, Montgomery County, Arkansas).

5. Benjamin Garland Winfred: b April 10, 1880, in Montgomery County, Arkansas; m 1st June 29, 1901, Myrtle Hutton; m 2d December 21, 1909, Lena Cherry Pendergrass; d 5 Jul 1939 in Tulsa, Oklahoma. (1880 Census, Montgomery County, Arkansas). See next U.1.2.1.

6. Edura Lea (Dora): b April 1, 1882, in Montgomery County, Arkansas; m in 1903 Monroe Damon Hardin; d November 16, 1905, in Hannah, McIntosh County, Indian Territory. (1900 census, Hogan Township, Franklin County, Arkansas).

1. Lillian Beatrice Hardin: b June 18, 1904, in Hughes County, Indian Territory; d July 27, 1959, at Redding, California.

7. Cora Jane: b June 16, 1884, in Arkansas; raised in the Henryetta area; m 1st at Okmulgee, Indian Territory, on July 15, 1904, Charles King; m 2d at Okmulgee on November 1, 1916, William W. Williams; m 3d Richard Davis. She died in Detriot, Michigan, on May 30, 1929. Her body was brought back to their home in Kusa, arriving in Henryetta, Okmulgee County, by train on June 3, 1929; buried in the Westlawn Cemetery. (1900 census, Hogan Township, Franklin County, Arkansas).

8. Della Ann: b March, 1887, in Arkansas; m on June 4, 1905, in Eufaula, McIntosh County, Indian Territory, Luther W. Webb. Della went into a coma at the birth of her

child, and both she and the baby, died on January 13, 1910, at Okfuskee County, Oklahoma. (1900 census, Hogan Township, Franklin County, Arkansas).

1. Eula Fay Webb: b January 12, 1910; died at birth.

9. Jessie May: b May 12, 1892, in Arkansas; m 1st in Okemah, Okfuskee County, Indian Territory, on August 9, 1906, James Henry Coplin. Married 2d in Okemah, Oklahoma, on May 12, 1913, Joseph Dennis Dorsey. (1900 census, Hogan Township, Franklin County, Arkansas).

1. Opal Mae Coplin: b August 122, 1908, in Henryetta, Okfuskee County, Oklahoma; m in Muskogee, Oklahoma, on August 30, 1929, Reece Elsworth Evans. She was raised under her stepfather's name of Dorsey.

2. Reynolds Edgar Doyle Dorsey: b April 25, 1914, in Henryetta, Oklahoma; caught pneumonia after walking home from scholl and wading through rain water in the gutters; he died April 28, 1922, age 8.

3. Farris Fay Dorsey: b November 12, 1916, near Henryetta; killed in an automobile accident in Hanford, California, on March 1, 1936.

4. Margaret Ann Dorset: b January 12, 1919; m Harold Ernburger; d in a fall down a flight of stairs in San Francisco on January 23, 1953.

5. Wilbert Joseph Dorset: b July 12, 1923, in Kusa, Oklahoma; d in Cottonwood, California, on October 2, 1978.

10. Arthur (twin): b and d 1896 in Altus, Arkansas.

11. Oscar (twin): b and d 1896 in Altus, Arkansas.

U.1.2.1
BENJAMIN GARLAND WINFRED WILLETT of the Indian Territory (now Oklahoma)

Benjamin Garland Winfred Willett was born April 10, 1880, in Marzan Township, Montgomery County, Arkansas. His parents moved to Franklin County, Arkansas, by 1890, and lived there until June of 1900. After the census was taken, the family moved to Coal Hill, Johnson County, Arkansas, and late in the fall moved to the Cherokee Nation, Indian Territory, settling at Salt Creek, near Campbell (now Gore), Sequoyah County, Oklahoma.

He married 1st on June 29, 1901, Myrtle Hutton at Campbell (now Gore), Muskogee County, Indian Territory. He and Myrtle separated, and Myrtle's younger sister, Josie Hutton, took their only child, Claude, to raise. Benjamin Garland Willett moved to Webber's Falls, (just west of Gore) where he operated a restaurant until 1904.

> "In 1905, he was living with his parents in Hannah, McIntosh County, Indian Territory, when a terrible tragedy took place. His sister, Dora and her husband, Monroe Damon Hardin, were also living in Hannah. And on Thursday, December 15, 1905, Monroe and Benjamin Garland bought some whiskey and hid it near Monroe's house. Late in

the evening, Monroe visited the hiding place, and discovered the whiskey gone. Armed with a pistol, Monroe went to Benjamin Garland Willett and accused him of stealing the whiskey. He raised quite a disturbance, and before he left, shot into the tent in which the Willett family was living.

Early Friday morning, December 16, Benjamin Garland Willett telephoned to Dustin to the United States Marshall Tilley, but failed to reach him. Whereupon, in fear of his life, he borrowed a .38 revolver and proceeded to Monroe's house to make a citizen's arrest.

When Benjamin Garland Willett approached the house, Monroe and Dora were in the yard. He drew his gun and ordered Monroe to put up his hands, but, instead of complying, Monroe drew his pistol and the two of them began shooting. Dora ran between them and was shot by her brother. Monroe was shot in the shoulder. Benjamin Garland Willett carried Dora into the house, and upon finding she was dead, went immediately into Hannah and related what had happened. Marshal Tilley took him into custody and Benjamin Garland Willett was placed in jail in Muskogee. The consensus of opinion was that: If you knew Monroe Hardin, you stayed away from him" (unpublished Dee Willett notes).

Garland Willett was convicted of manslaughter (according to the Decembner 16, 1905, newspaper report in the "Cherokee Advocate."

Benjamin Garland Willett married 2d at Okfuskee County, Oklahoma, on December 21, 1909, Lena Cherry Pendergrass, the daughter of Jason Calvin Pendergrass and Jane Benson. The Willett and Pendergrass families were always very closely due to the fact that both Jason Pendergrass and Nathaniel Willett married Benson sisters (Rebecca Prudence Benson, and Jane Benson). Lena Cherry Pendergrass was born December 1, 1890, in Alvord, Wise County, Texas, and died December 22, 1927, in Seminole County, Oklahoma. She is buried in the Maple Grove Cemetery, Seminole, Oklahoma.

"Mrs. Lena Willets, 38, wife of G. F. Willets, died in a tent in the rear of Harber huspotal (sic) of pneumonia early Friday. Internment was had in Maple Grove Cemetery at 4 P. M., Friday. The Born-Chadwick company directed the funeral.

Mrs. Willets was the mother of five young children. She had been living in the tent with her family for some time. She was stricken with pneumonia a short time ago, which proved fatal" ("Seminole Producer", Seminole, Oklahoma, Friday, December 23, 1927).

"Benjamin Garland worked in the early day oil fields of Oklahoma. The roads in those days were dusty in dry weather and quagmires when it rained, so if you worked the oil fields, you moved from Boom town to Boom town, as the roads were too bad to commute. Therefore, Benjamin Garland and his family were residents of almost all of the oil towns, including Okfuskee, Bristow, old Slick, Drumright, Keifer, Sapulpa, Henryetta, Spring Hill (now Pharoah), Cromwell, and Seminole."

He died March 5, 1939, in Tulsa, Oklahoma and was buried 8 Jul 1939 at Woodland Cemetery, Sands Springs, Tulsa County, Oklahoma. His death certificate was signed by his daughter, Oma Francis Thompson.

1. Claude: b 1902 in Campbell (now Gore), Sequoyah County, Indian Territory. Claude was raised by Josie (sister to Myrtle Hutton Willett).

2. Oma Francis: b September 17, 1910, in Okfusgee County, Oklahoma; m 1st in Okmulgee, in 1930, Sam Hubbs; divorced; m 2d at Shreveport, Louisana, on September 7, 1932, Winfred Hazel Thompson.

1. Glenda Lonell Thompson:

2. Ann Yevonne Thompson:

3. Hazel Francis Thompson:

4. William Howard Thompson:

5. Karl Frank Thompson:

3. Zona Fay: b December 2, 1911; d October 22, 1918, during the flu epidemic. When the influenza epidemic hit Sapulpa, it only lasted 6 months, but left half of the population dead in its wake; a macabre note in a local paper stated that her funeral will be delayed "because the grave diggers are so far behind."

4. Delaney Debs ("Dee"): b October 20, 1913, at Mason Township, Okfusgee County, Oklahoma; m at Gainesville, Texas, on June 12, 1936, Evelyn Lea Harvard; "Dee" followed the oil fields as a driller for 40 years, with 2 years out while serving in the U.S. Army during World War II in England and North Africa. See next U.1.2.1.3.

5. Benjamin David: b May 2, 1916, in Bristow, Oklahoma; died in December, 1916, at 7 months, in Keifer.

6. Robert Lee: b March 7, 1918, at Drumright, Creek County, Oklahoma. See next U.1.2.1.6.

7. Carl Ray: b May 9, 1921, on the Wilcox Oil Company lease, 6 miles out of Beggs toward Bristow, at Drumright, Creek County, Oklahoma. Carl joined the Army on July 10, 1939, and was killed in action August 26, 1944, at Brest, France. He is buried in Brittany in the American Cemetery, St. James, France, Plot K, Row 17, Grave 16. Carl was serving as a Corporal with the U.S. Army, 15th Cavalry Reconaissance Squadron. He was killed by a German land mine.

8. Jack Walton (twin): b April 26, 1924, at Henryetta, Okmulgee County, Oklahoma. Jack joined the Army and served in the South Pacific during World War II in the infantry. At one time, he volunteered to fight rear guard while his company escaped an attack by the enemy. He was given a Presidentail Citation for this action. He was discharged at the end of the war. He married on August 19, 1947, at Houston, Texas, Ruth Ellen Jackson.

9. a twin brother to Jack: b April 26, 1924, at Henryetta, Okmulgee County, Oklahoma; died at birth. The twins weighted 2 ½ pounds each at birth. His coffin made was the size of a shoe box.

10. Calena Mae: b December 19, 1927, at Seminole, Oklahoma; died the same day. Her mother died 3 days later, on December 22, and they are both buried in the Maple Grove Cemetery, Lot 44.

U.1.2.1.3
DELANEY DEBS WILLETT and Oklahoma and California

Delaney Debs ("Dee") was born on October 20, 1913, in Okfusgee County, Oklahoma. He 1st married at Gainesville, Cooke County, Texas, on June 12, 1936, Evelyn Lea Howard (Marriage Records of Cooke County, Texas, Volume 18, page 10). At the time he was working for the Ed Moran Drilling Company in Ada, Oklahoma.

"Dee" followed the oil fields as a driller for 40 years, with 2 years out while serving in the U.S. Army during World War II in England and North Africa. After returning home, "Dee" married at Columbia, Marion County, Mississippi, on April 4, 1945, Evelyn Gertrude Doyal (Book 25, page 278, Marion County, Mississippi, Mariage Book). They settled in California in 1950.

"Dee" Willett, a resident of Bakersfield, Kern County, California, married in Carson City, Nevada, on June 27, 1952, Rosella Hamilton, a resident of the same county. "Dee" and Rosella first met in Kusa, Oklahoma, in 1922. She is the daughter of Mack C. and Lucy Florence (Ivy) Hamilton (b July 4, 1873, at Independence County, Arkansas.

1. Gerald Delaney (adopted): b March 27, 1937; adopted shortly after his birth; m December 17, 1963, Margaret Evelyn Voncannon; he was accidently electrocuted on his job in 1965.

(1). Sarah Louise: b November 15, 1965.

U.1.2.1.6
ROBERT LEE WILLETT of Oklahoma

Robert Lee Willett was born on March 7, 1918, at Drumright, Creek County, Oklahoma.

> "Robert Lee Willett joined the Army in Tulsa on March 7, 1941, and was sent to the Philippines with the 31st Infantry Division, Anti-Tank Company. He was stationed at Cartel de Espano Army Post when Japan attacked.
>
> Robert was wounded by mortar shrapnel in April, 1942, and the medic who came to his aid was killed. He was taken prisoner from a field hospital, sent to a prisoner of war (P.O.W.) camp 30 miles across the bay from Hiroshima, Japan, and was still there when the atomic bomb was dropped. He was rescued by U. S. Forces on September 13, 1945, after being a P.O.W. for 3 years, 5 months, and 4 days.
>
> Robert Lee Willett's military awards include the Purple Heart, Presidential Citation, Philippine Presidential Citation, Philippine

Defense Medal, National Defense Medal, American Defense Medal, 2 Battle Stars, 12 Oak Leaf Clusters, and 9 lesser awards. Robert retired as a Staff Sergeant after 20 years service" (unpublished typescript notes: Dee Willett).

U.2
W. P. WILLETT of Benton County, Tennessee

W. P. Willett was born in 1830. He married Alabama (b 1836). They lived in Benton County, Tennessee, in 1860. (1860 census).

Benton County is in the western portion of the state on the Tennessee River and Kentucky Lake. Camden is the county seat. (1860 Benson County census).

1. Frances: b 1854. (1860 Benton County census).

2. John: b 1859. (1860 Benton County census).

U.3
THOMAS WILLET of Davidson County, Tennessee

Thomas Willet was living in Davidson County, Tennessee, in 1811 (tax list).

U.4
SIMON P. WILLETT and JULIA GILLAM
of Davidson County, Tennessee, and Lauderdale County, Alabama

Simon P. Willett was born about 1790. He married in Davidson County, Tennessee, on November 24, 1813, Julia Gillam, the daughter of Thomas Gilliam (Marriages of Davidson County, Tennessee, 1789-1847, 1981, page 30).

It may only be a concidence, but a Simeron (sic) P. Willett was living in Lincoln County, Tennessee, in 1812 (tax list).

In 1829, Simon P. Willett was a resident of Lauderdale County, Alabama.

> "Know all men by these presents that we, Simeon P. Willett and Julia Willett, formerly Julia Gilliam, both of the County of Lauderdale, State of Albama, have appointed John Key of the County of Lauderdale and state aforesaid, our true and lawful attorney to ask, demand and recover for us all properties and money to which we have a legal right, or equitable right, by virtue of the last will and testament of Molly or Mary Tucker, deceased, late of the State of Virginia.
>
> And also our part of the estate of Thomas Gilliam, deceased,late of the State of Virginia, which may be coming to us in the right of the said Julia Willett who is one of the heirs of the said Thomas Gilliam, deceased" dated May 8, 1829 (Sussex County, Virginia, Deed Book "P", page 449, quoted in Emigration to Other States from Southside Virginia, page 127).

> "M.B. April 10, 1801: Captain Stith Tucker and Polly (Mary) Gilliam, daughter of Thomas Gilliam. Surety: John Gilliam." (Emigration to Other States from Southside Virginia, page 127).

U.5
JOSHUA WILLET and RACHEL RICHER of Greene County, Tennessee

Joshua Willet was born about 1785. He married in Greene County, Tennessee, on January 22, 1808, Rachel Richer (b abt 1785; also sometimes spelled Richey), the daughter of Peter Ricker. She was mentioned in her father's will dated September 9, 1813.

John Willet, Geo. Farnsworth, and Philip Evert were security (Greene County, Tennessee, Marriages, Brugner, page 29). On August 23, 1809, Joshuaway Willet was security for the marriage of Frederick Ricker (Greene County, Tennessee, Marriages, Brugner, page 32). There was a Jashludevay (sic) Willett living in Greene County in 1812 (tax list).

The next Willett families listed for Greene County may have been the unnamed children of this Joshua Willet. (1830 Greene County census).

Green County is in the extreme eastern portion of the state. It shares the Great Smokey Mountains with Washington County, and Sullivan County. Greenville is the county seat.

1. (son): b abt 1812. (1830 Greene County census).

2. (daughter): b abt 1813. (1830 Greene County census).

3. (daughter): b abt 1817. (1830 Greene County census).

4. (son): b abt 1818. (1830 Greene County census).

5. (son): b abt 1822. (1830 Greene County census).

6. (daughter): b abt 1823. (1830 Greene County census).

7. (daughter): b abt 1827. (1830 Greene County census).

8. (son): b abt 1828. (1830 Greene County census).

U.6
AMBROSE WILLET and POLLY BROTHERTON
of Greene County, and Cocke County, Tennessee

Ambrose Willet was born in Tennesse in 1815. He married in Greene County, Tennessee, on December 28, 1841, Polly (Mary) Brotherton (b 1812 in North Carolina). In 1850 he lived in Greene County, Tennessee.

In 1860 he was living in Cocke County, Tennessee. Also, in 1860, a William M. Berker, age 21, was living with him. (1850, 1860 Greene County census). Ambrose Willett was a private in the Confederate Army and served in I Company, 62d Tennessee Infantry, from August 20, 1862, until April 20, 1865. In 1890, he was living at Newport Post Office.

1. Margaret: b 1843 in Tennessee. (1850, 1860 Greene County census).

2. Jacob R: b 1844. (1850, 1860 Greene County census).

3. Philip J: b 1846. (1850, 1860 Greene County census).

4. Hyldy C. (Heilda): b 1847. (1850, 1860 Greene County census).

5. Martha J: b 1849. (1850, 1860 Greene County census).

6. Catherine E: b 1852. (1860 Greene County census).

7. Sarah E: b 1854. (1860 Greene County census).

8. William: b 1856. (1860 Greene County census).

U.7
FRANCES WILLETT of Grainger County, Tennessee

There was a Frances Willett living in Grainger County, Tennessee, in 1804 (tax list), and in 1805 (tax list). The spelling Frances may refer to a male, as the convention of spelling a male Francis and a female Frances was not followed at this time period.

U.8
JACOB WILLET of Greene County, Tennessee

Jacob Willet was born in 1827 (1832) in Tennessee. He married Mary (b 1823 or 1820 in Tennesse). They lived in Greene County, Tennessee, in 1850. (1850, 1860 Greene County, census). From 1862 until 1865, Jacob Willett was a Sergeant in K Company, 13th Tennessee Cavalry. He was living at Greenville Post Office in 1890 (1890 Civil War Census, Tennessee, 1978).

1. Catherine: b March (or April), 1850. She is not in the 1860 census. (1850 Greene County census).

2. Joseph: b 1853. (1860 Greene County census).

3. James R: b 1855. (1860 Greene County census).

4. Jacob: b 1857. (1860 Greene County census).

U.9
PHILIP WILLETT and CAROLINE JOHNSON of Greene County, Tennessee

Philip Willett was born in 1827. Philip Willett married in Greene County, Tennessee, on December 15, 1846, Catherine Johnson. Robert Jackson Farnsworth and Samuel Hinkle were security.

He was living in Greene County, Tennessee, in 1860, but he is not listed in the 1850 census. No wife is listed in his household. (1860 Greene County census).

On June 12, 1859, Philip Willet was witness to the will of Henry A. Farnsworth (Greene County, Tennessee, Wills, Burgner, page 9).

1. Caroline: b 1849. (1860 Greene County census).

2. Allen J: b 1850. (1860 Greene County census).

3. Gilford F: b 1851. (1860 Greene County census).

4. William G: b 1854. (1860 Greene County census).

5. Permea M: b 1855. (1860 Grenne County census).

6. Martha F: b 1858. (1860 Greene County census).

7. Sarah J: b 1860. (1860 Greene County census).

U.10
WILLIAM WILLETT and ELIZABETH RICKER of Greene County

William Willett was born in 1812 in Tennessee. He married on April 11, 1835, Elizabeth Latter? (b 1812 in North Carolina). Frederick Ricker was security for his marriage. They lived in Greene County, Tennessee in 1850. (1850 Greene County census).

1. Margaret: b 1836 in Tennessee. (1850 Greene County census).

2. Minvera: b 1838. (1850 Greene County census).

3. James H: b 1840. (1850 Greene County census).

4. Emeline: b 1842. (1850 Greene County census).

5. Caroline: b 1843. (1850 Greene County census).

6. Barbara: b 1845. (1850 Greene County census).

7. William: b 1847. (1850 Greene County census).

8. Samuel: b 1849. (1850 Greene County census).

U.11
JAMES WILLET and EMILY PERRON
of Jackson County, and White County Tennessee

James Willet was born in 1828 in Tennessee. He married in Roane County, Tennessee, on October 11, 1847, Emiline Perron (b 1832 in Tennessee). They lived in Jackson County, Tennessee, in 1850; and a Sally Barns, age 9, was living with them.

In 1860, he was living in White County, Tennessee. Jackson County is in the north central portion of the state. The county seat is Gainesboro. (1850 Jackson County census; 1860 White County census).

1. John W: b 1849. (1850 Jackson County census; 1860 White County census).

2. Mary E: b 1852. (1860 White County census).

3. Samuel E: b 1854. (1860 White County census).

4. William T: b 1856. (1860 White County census).

5. Sarah E: b 1859. (1860 White County census).

U.12
JOHN C. WILLETT of Lawrence County, Tennessee

John C. Willett was born in 1813 in Tennessee. In 1850, he was living with the Robert Rose (age 34) family. He was a coach driver. (1850 Lawrence County census).

U.13
JOHN WILLETT and MARTHA MITCHELL of Madison County, Tennessee

John Willett was born about 1820. He married in Madison County, Tennessee, on April 7, 1842, Martha Mitchell.

Perhaps they are the parents of James T. Willett listed next.

U.14
JAMES T. WILLETT and MARY E. Day of Madison County, Tennessee

James T. Willett was born about 1842. He married in Madison County, Tennessee, on November 19, 1862, Mary E. Day. Perhaps he was a soldier in the Civil War. At any rate, Mrs. Mary E. Willett, of Madison County, Tennessee, married at Madison County, on February 18, 1869, Rufus N. Binkley.

U.15
ROBERT WILLETT of Marshall County, Tennessee

Robert Willett was born in 1812 in North Carolina. He married about 1825; his wife's name is unknown, as she is not in the 1850 census. He was a laborer who lived in Marshall County, Tennessee.

On July 7, 1846, there is an entry for the estate of Luemma L. Willett deceased wife of Roabert A. Willett, administrator, with a bond for $500.00; and William A. Doltan was the security for that bond (Book C, page 121, Marshall County Records). This may be the wife of Robert Willett above.

In 1860, his wife is named Sarah (b 1818).

Marshal County is in the south central portion of the state; Lewisburg is the county seat. (1850 Marshall County, Tennessee, census).

1. Elizabeth B: b abt 1830; m in Marshall County, Tennessee, on January 22, 1850, Alcey Caps.

2. Sarah D: b 1832. (1850 Marshall County census).

3. Nancy E: b 1840. (1850 Marshall County census).

4. Margaret A: b 1842. (1850, 1860 Marshall County census).

5. Cordelia B (Parillee): b 1844. (1850, 1860 Marshall County census).

6. Sarah T: b 1844. (1860 Marshall County census).

7. Robert B: b 1846. (1860 Marshall County census).

8. Rebecca: b abt 1848.

U.16
RICHARD WILLETT of Marshall County, Tennessee

Richard Willett was born in 1816 in North Carolina. He married about 1840 Jane (b 1820 in North Carolina). A Mary Willett (b 1783 in Virginia), age 67, is living in their household.

1. William : b 1841 in Tennessee.

2. Eliza: b 1843 in Tennessee.

3. Lewis: b 1845 in Tennessee.

4. John: b 1848 in Tennessee.

U.17
JAMES R. WILLETT and ELEN E. CALAHAN of Marshall County, Tennessee

James R. Willett was born about 1822. He married in Marshall County, Tennessee, on October 11, 1847, Elen E. Calahan.

U.18
LOGAN D. WILLETT and LEVISSA E. WILLIAMS of Marshall County, Tennessee

Logan D. Willett was born about 1815. He married in Marshall County, Tennessee, on July 16, 1839, Levissa A. Williams.

U.19
MARY WILLETT of Maury County, Tennessee

Mary Willett was born before 1785. In 1830, she was the head of a family living in Maury County, Tennessee. The 1830 census shows that there were 5 males living in her household. (1830 Maury County, Tennessee, census).

U.20

EDWARD WILLETT and POLLY TEDFORD of McNairy County, Tennessee

Edward Willett was born in 1790 in Virginia. He married about 1801 Polly Tedford (b 1790 in Virginia; or about 1800 in East Tennessee; Tennessee was not admitted into the Union until 1796, so that either description, born in Virginia, or, born in East Tennessee, could be correct).

Polly may have been the daughter of Robert Tedford and Jane White who married in Blount County, Tennesse, on July 4, 1800.

It is unknown where they married, but about 1810 they were living in Lincoln County, Tennessee, possibly at Fayette (1820 Lincoln County census). Lincoln County is in the center of Tennesse, and on the Alabama border.

After 1820, Edward Willett and his family, and the Robert Tedford family, moved further westward across the Tennessee River to McNairy County, Tennessee. The Edward Willett family is in the 1830, 1840, and 1850 censuses for McNairy County. Polly died in 1836.

Edward remarried about 1840 Sarah (b 1808 in Georgia), and the children from the 1850 census belong to the same Edward Willett. In 1850, his wife is called, Sarah (b 1808 in Georgia). Edward died in 1862.

McNairy County is in the south western portion of the state bordering Mississippi; Selmer is the county seat. (1850 McNairy County, Tennessee, census).

1. (son): b abt 1818 (1810-1820). (1820, 1830 McNairy County census).

2. (daughter): b abt 1820 (1810-1820). (1820, 1820, 1840 McNairy County census).

3. Elizabeth: b 1822, in McNairy County, Tennessee; m abt 1845 R. S. Miller (b 1816 in South Carolina; d July 11, 1874). (1830 McNairy County census).

    (1). J. A. Miller: b April, 1847, in McNairy (now Chester) County, Tennessee.

4. (son): b abt 1824 (1820-1825). (1830 McNairy County census).

5. (daughter): b abt 1825 (1825-1830). (1830, 1840 McNairy County census).

6. (son): b abt 1828 (1825-1830). (1830 McNairy County census).

7. James: b 1833 in Tennessee. (1850 McNairy County census).

8. Nancy: b 1835. (1840, 1850 McNairy County census).

9. Nimrod: b 1841. (1850 McNairy County census).

U.21

MINERVA WILLETT and WILLIAM W. TEDFORD of McNairy County

Minerva Willett was born about 1804 in North Carolina. About 1823, she married at Lincoln County (or McNairy County, Tennessee, William W. Tedford, the son of Robert Tedford. Robert Tedford was a wheelwright who lived in Fayette, Lincoln County, Tennessee, prior to 1813; he was living in Lincoln, Tennessee, in 1820.

In 1850 (census), Mevana Tedford, age 46, was living in McNairy County, Tennessee.
In 1860 (census), Miriam Tedford, age 55, was living in Titus County, Texas.

1. (child) Tedford: b 1820-1825 in Lincoln County, Tennessee.

2. Robert James Tedford: b November 4, 1826, in Lincoln County, Tennessee; m December 16, 1866, in Walker County, Texas, Mary Jane Reed; d March 8, 1911, in Rockport, Aransas, Texas.

3. Elizabeth Jane Tedford: b October 6, 1829, in McNairy County, Texas; m abt 1850 John Gibson; d July 12, 1911, in Granite, Greer County, Oklahoma.

4. John A. Tedford: b abt 1832, in McNairy County, Tennessee; d abt 1875, in Titus, Texas.

5. Permilla Josephine Tedford: b November 16, 1834, in McNairy County, Tennessee; m 1853 John Kirby Smith; d December 1, 1910, in Peaster, Parker, Texas.

6. Sarah Catherine Tedford: b July 15, 1839, in McNairy County, Tennessee; m January 3, 1864, William Henry Stiewig, in Titus, Texas; d October 22, 1924, in Atoka 3. Elizabeth Jane Tedford: b October 6, 1829, in McNairy County, Texas; m abt 1850 John Gibson; d July 12, 1911, in Granite, Greer County, Oklahoma.

7. Nancy Ann Tedford: b January 14, 1841, in McNairy County, Tennessee; m December 25, 1860, Benjamin Franklin Gibson in Titus County, Texas.

8. Martha C. Tedford: b December 29, 1843, in McNairy County, Tennessee; m October 10, 1875, John C. Terrell in Titus County, Texas; d March 15, 1928, in Franklin County, Texas.

9. Almeda Florida Tedford: b 1845, in McNairy County, Tennessee; m March 27, 1883, in Titus Texas, Thomas Jefferson Sanders; d April 30, 1928, in Titus Texas.

10. Mary Francis Tedford: b February 19, 1849, in McNairy County, Tennesee; m abt 1875 in Texas, John Wesley Deaton; d June 16, 1924, in Rocky, Washita County, Oklahoma.

U.22
JOHN WILLETT of McNairy County, Tennessee

John Willett was born in 1817 in Tennessee. He married about 1835 Ellender (b 1819 in South Carolina). They lived in McNairy County, Tennessee, in 1850. (1850 McNairy County census).

1. Martha: b 1841 in Tennessee. (1850 McNairy County census).

2. Mary: b 1843 in Kentucky. (1850 McNairy County census).

3. Penelope: b 1845 in Tennessee. (1850 McNairy County census).

4. Taylor: b 1847. (1850 McNairy County census).

5. Nathan: b 1850. (1850 McNairy County census).

U.23
SIMON P. WILLET of Perry County, Tennessee

Simon P. Willet was born in 1809 in North Carolina. He married about 1832 Elenor (Ellender) (b 1815 in North Carolina). They lived in Perry County, Tennessee, in 1850. (1850, 1860 census).

Perry is in the western portion of the state on the Tennessee River; Benton County is to the north; Linden is the county seat. (1850, 1860 Perry County census).

1. Mary Ann: b 1835 in North Carolina. (1850, 1860 Perry County census).

2. William A: b 1837 in North Carolina. (1850, 1860 Perry County census).

3. Ellen V: b 1843 in North Carolina. (1850, 1860 Perry County census).

U.24
JAMES WILLETT of Kingston, Roane County, Tennessee

James Willett was born about 1760. There is no information on where or exactly when he was born. If Enoch Willett was a son of his, then this James Willet may have been born in Pennsylvania. However, he may have come from Virginia, and some of his descendents believe he came from New York. There was a great migration after the Revolutionary War; all of westen New York state, the Northwest Territory, Tennessee, and Kentucky were experiencing a period of migration without equal that was brought on by the opening of the Northwest Territory, and the resettlement of the Cherokee and other Indian tribes out of the south and across the Mississippi River.

James Willett married about 1775 Sarah (b 1749, possibly in Virginia; d May 4, 1820, age 71 years, in Tennessee). They were living in Virginia in 1783 when the daughter Sarah was born.

James Willett is not listed in the 1802 Roane County Tax List. However, he did pay a $25.00 license as a merchant in Roane County in 1802. By 1803, James Willett was living in Roane County, Tennessee. In 1803 (tax list) he was listed as a merchant when he paid his taxes. He paid taxes again in 1805 (tax list). At this time, he was living one house away from his son-in-law, George Grove; also, his sons, Enoch and William were listed separately. Roane County was established in 1801; the first settlement in the area was in 1785.

Perhaps James Willett did not pay his taxes in 1806. He is sued twice by John Hall and once by Samuel Johnston for taxes of 62 ½ cents each time.

James Willett must have died after 1806 but before 1815. His widow, Sarah Willett lived with her daughter, Sarah (Willett) Grove, in Knox County, on Flat Creek, near what is now Mascot, Tennessee. They lived on Grove's road (named after George's father, William Grove). Sarah Willett died on May 4, 1820, at the age of 71 years.

1. William: b abt 1778, probably in Virginia; m March 22, 1803, in Roane County, Tennessee, Mary Regan; bondsman: James Willett. William Willett was living in Roane County in 1805 (tax list); d between 1849 and 1861, probably in Callaway County, Missouri. See next U.24.1.

2. Enoch: b abt 1781, possibly in Pennsylvania; m in Roane County on March 12, 1807, Elizabeth Ford; d late in 1830 in Roane County. See next U.24.2.

3. Sarah: b June 8, 1783, in Virginia; m in Roane County, Tennessee, on August 26, 1805, George Graves (b January 8, 1779, in Loudon County, Virginia; d September 26, 1860, in Tennessee), the son of William and Elenor Reeder Grove. See next U.24.3.

U.24.1
WILLIAM WILLETT and MARY FAGAN
of Roane County, Tennessee, and Callaway County, Missouri

William Willett was born in 1778, in Virginia. He married on March 22, 1803, in Roane County, Tennessee, Mary Regan; bondsman: James Willett.

He was summoned for jury duty in September, 1804, in Roane County, and again in September, 1810. William Willett was taxed in Roane County in 1805 (tax list).

A William Willett is listed as a Private on the Muster Roll of Captain James McKamy's Company. This William enlisted January 20, 1814, until May 20, 1814.

He is on the voters list in 1815. He served jury duty in July, 1817. On March 18, 1817, William Willett signed a petition to alter the district lines. He signed a petition for a road on March 19, 1819. William is listed again in 1826 on the tax list of Captain Center listing all males 21 and over.

He is listed in the Roane County census for 1830, and 1840. In 1840, he had 9 slaves.

William Willett removed to Callaway County, Missouri, in 1850.

He died between 1850 and 1861, probably in Callaway County, Missouri.

1. Nathaniel: b May 2, 1806, in Roane County, Tennesee; m in Roane County on September 24, 1829, Charity Russell, the daughter of Jesse Russell; moved first to Callaway County, Missouri, and then to Cedar County, Missouri in the 1840s; d January 10, 1892, at Stockton, Cedar County, Missouri. See next U.24.1.1.

2. (daughter): b 1810-1815, in Tennessee.

3. (son): b 1815-1820, in Tennessee.

4. Enoch Hanager: b March 4, 1817, in Roane County, Tennessee; m in Kingston, Roane County, Tennessee, on February 25, 1836, Savilla (Cecilia) H. Russell (b December 15, 1817, in North Carolina; d September 24, 1864), in Roane County, Tennessee; resided in Callaway County, Missouri, in 1850, and 1860; d June 5, 1878. See next U.24.1.4.

5. David: b April 16, 1820, in Tennessee; m February 10, 1845, Margaret W. Davis (b June 26, 1824, in Virginia); in Callaway County, Missouri, in 1850, but gone by 1860. See next U.24.1.5.

6. (son): b 1825-1830 in Tennessee.

7. (son): b 1825-1830 in Tennessee.

U.24.1.1
NATHANIEL WILLETT and CHARITY RUSSELL
of Roane County, Tennessee, and Cedar County, Missouri

Nathaniel Willett was born on May 2, 1806, in Roane County, Tennessee. He married in Roane County, Tennessee, on September 24, 1829, Charity Russell (b March 2, 1812, in North Carolina; d December 18, 1876, in Stockton, Cedar County, Missouri), the daughter of Jesse Russell. A Thomas G. Willett and a H. S. Purris signed their marriage bond.

Nathaniel and family were in Roane County, Tennessee, in 1830 and 1840. In the fall of 1840, they removed, first to Callaway County, Missouri, where they settled for about ten years. Then about 1850 they became residents of Cedar County, Missouri (1851).

Nathaniel died on January 10, 1892, at Stockton, Cedar County, Missouri. He and his wife are buried at the Stockton Cemetery in Stockton, Cedar County, Missouri.

(1830, 1840 Roane County, Tennessee, census; 1860 Cedar County, Missouri, census).

1. Thomas Jefferson: b August 2, 1830, in Roane County, Tennessee; m 1st in Cedar County, Missouri, on July 19, 1856, Lucy Jane O'Connor (b July 9, 1832, in Cedar County, Missouri; d July 30, 1904, in Cedar County, Missouri; buried at Omer Cemetery, Cedar County); m 2d Josephine Bryson; d August 9, 1913, in Cedar County, Missouri. (1840 Roane County, Tennessee, census). See next .U.24.1.1.1.

2. Jesse: E. Russell L: b October 24, 1833, in Roane County, Tennessee; in 1860, he was a teacher in the common school; never married; d October 12, 1864 (or 1861); buried at Stockton Cemetery, Stockton, Cedar County, Missouri. (1840 Roane County, Tennessee, census; 1860 Cedar County, Missouri, census).

3. William (Bill) Rufus: b August 30, 1835, in Roane County, Tennessee; m March 10, 1861, Elizabeth (Eliza) Jane Higdon (b March 10, 1842, in Alabama; d January 11, 1918, at Cave Springs, Missouri; buried at Omer Cemetery, Cedar County, Missouri); d June 4, 1921, in Missouri; buried at the Omer Cemetery. (1840 Roane County, Tennessee, census; 1860 Cedar County, Missouri, census). See next U.24.1.1.3.

4. Washington Churchill: b January 6, 1838, in Roane County, Tennessee; m April 2, 1861, Mary Jane Brown, in Cedar County, Missouri; d November 9, 1907, in Cedar County, Missouri. Mary Jane (Brown) Willett married as her 2d husband in 1911 Samuel Achord. (1860 Cedar County, Missouri, census). See next U.24.1.1.4.

5. Henry Purris: b March 7, 1840, in Roane County, Tenessee; m December 24 (or 25), 1865, Rebecca Ann Wrenn (b June 10, 1844, in Tennessee; d September 16, 1915 (or Octobe 7, 1925), in Missouri; buried at the Stockton Cemetery, Stockton, Cedar County, Missouri. (1860 Cedar County, Missouri, census). See next U.24.1.1.5.

6. Mary Elizabeth (Betsey): b September 17, 1842, in Callaway County, Missouri; m 1st March 9, 1865, in Cedar County, Missouri, Ephraim C. (Badger) Sherrill (b 1846 in Missouri; d 1870 in Newton County, Missouri; buried in Newton); m 2d Sampson (Samuel) Swingle (b March 30, 1849; d October 3, 1932; buried at Jasper Cemetery, near Reeds, Jasper County, Missouri; d March 17, 1917, in Missouri; buried at the Jasper Cemetery. (1860 Cedar County, Missouri, census).

1. Riley Sherrill: b abt 1866.

2. Thomas Sherrill: b abt 1868.

7. Martha Ann: b May 26, 1845, in Callaway County, Missouri; m March 17, 1864, in Cedar County, Missouri, John Calvin Lemaster (b March 22, 1839, in Dade County, Missouri; d June 16, 1888, in Cedar County, Missouri; buried in the Gum Springs Cemetery in Cedar County, Missouri), the son of Joseph M. and Elizabeth Miller Lemaster; d February 26, 1925, in Cedar County, Missouri; buried in the Gum Spring Cemetery. (1860 Cedar County, Missouri, census).

8. James R: b March 12, 1851, in Cedar County, Missouri; unmarried; d February 10, 1874, in Cedar County, Missouri; buried at the Stockton Cemetery, Stockton, Cedar County, Missouri. (1860 Cedar County, Missouri, census).

U.24.1.1.1
THOMAS JEFFERSON WILLETT of Cedar County, Missouri

Thomas Jefferson Willett was born on August 2, 1830, in Roane County, Tennessee. He married 1st in Cedar County, Missouri, on July 17 (or 19), 1856, Lucy Jane O'Connor (b July 9, 1832, in Cedar County, Missouri; d July 30, 1904, in Cedar County, Missouri; buried at Omer Cemetery, Cedar County). He was a farmer (1860).

He married 2d Josephine Bryson.

Thomas Jefferson Willett died on August 9, 1913, in Cedar County, Missouri. (1860 Cedar County, Missouri, census).

1. Millard Fillmore: b May 5, 1857, in Cedar County, Missouri; m 1918 Addie Geyhart; separated; d 1939 in Missouri; buried at Omer Cemetery, Cedar County, Missouri. (1860 Cedar County, Missouri, census).

    1. Bryan: b abt 1920.

2. Margaret Ann: b August 16, 1858, in Cedar County, Missouri; m December 25, 1876, William Franklin (Bill Manda) Underwood (b December 18, 1852, in Missouri; d November 14, 1932; buried Gum Springs Cemetery, Cedar County, Missouri), the son of Henry and Amanda M. Murphy Underwood; d November 18, 1935; buried Gum Springs Cemetery, Cedar County, Missouri. (1860 Cedar County, Missouri, census). See next U.24.1.1.2.

3. Jesse P: b December 7 (or 9), 1861, in Cedar County, Missouri; m at Crisp, Dade County, Missouri, on September 22, 1881, Julia Ann Crisp (b May 1, 1865, Morgan County, Missouri; d July 11, 1942, Dade County, Missouri; buried at Crisp Cemetery, Dade County, Missouri), the daughter of John and Malinda English Crisp; d September 3 (or 30), 1949, at Crisp, Dade County, Missouri; buried originally at Crisp Cemetery, Dade County, Missouri, but their bodies were moved to Vaughan Cemetery, Dade County, Missouri, when Stockton Lake was created. See next U.24.1.1.1.3.

4. Churchill: b October 15, 1864, in Cedar County, Missouri; d July 4, 1865, in Missouri; buried at Stockton Cemetery, Cedar County, Missouri.

5. Mary Ellen: b May 30, 1867, in Cedar County, Missouri; m September 4, 1892, Field(s) Benton Glenn (b October 17, 1846; d July 28, 1928; both in Dade County, Missouri), the son of George Washington and Mary Ellen Locke Glenn. Field was previously married to Sarah Ellen Duncan, and they had ten children before her death. Field had another ten children by Mary Ellen Willett. Mary Ellen (Willett) Glenn died on February 12, 1941, in Dade County, Missouri. See next U.24.1.1.1.5.

6. Lucy J: b February 24, 1872, in Cedar County, Missouri; a James (Jim) Vanhooser (b March 21, 1872; d 1932); d 1952. See next U.24.1.1.1.6.

7. Thomas (Tommy) J: b January 3, 1875, in Cedar County, Missouri; d July 3, 1903, in Missouri; buried at Omer Cemetery, Cedar County, Missouri.

U.24.1.1.1.2
MARGARET ANN WILLETT and WILLIAM FRANKLIN UNDERWOOD
of Cedar County, Missouri

Margaret Ann Willett was born on August 16, 1858, in Cedar County, Missouri. She married on December 25, 1876, William Franklin (Bill Manda) Underwood (b December 18, 1852, in Missouri; d November 14, 1932; buried Gum Springs Cemetery, Cedar County, Missouri), the son of Henry and Amanda M. Murphy Underwood.

She died on November 18, 1935, and is buried Gum Springs Cemetery, Cedar County, Missouri. (1860 Cedar County, Missouri, census).

1. Eva N. Underwood: b March 17, 1878, in Missouri; m February 18, 1897, Charley Duncan.

2. Walter Underwood: b abd d June 22, 1879; buried Gum Springs Cemetery, Cedar County, Missouri.

3. Ida L. Underwood: b June 4, 1880; m August 8, 1909, George Lowery (Lowry); d July 21, 1965, in Missouri.

4. Ader T. Underwood: b August 4, 1882, in Missouri; m 1916 John Robert Willett; d July 10, 1930; buried at Gum Springs Cemetery, Cedar County, Missouri.

5. Chester Underwood: b December 2, 1887; d October 12, 1890; buried at Gum Springs Cemetery, Cedar County, Missouri.

6. Leonard Underwood: b and d March 7, 1890, in Missouri; buried Gum Springs Cemetery, Cedar County, Missouri.

7. Edith Underwood: b August 31, 1892; m January 18, 1914, Roy Price.

U.24.1.1.1.3
JESSE WILLETT and JULIA ANN CRISP of Dade County, Missouri

Jesse P. Willett was born on December 7 (or 9), 1861, in Cedar County, Missouri. He married at Crisp, Dade County, Missouri, on September 22, 1881, Julia Ann Crisp (b May 1, 1865, Morgan County, Missouri; d July 11, 1942, Dade County, Missouri; buried at Crisp Cemetery, Dade County, Missouri), the daughter of John and Malinda English Crisp.

Jesse was a preacher in his youth but followed the profession of merchant and postmaster later in life.

He died on September 3 (or 30), 1949, at Crisp, Dade County, Missouri; buried originally at Crisp Cemetery, Dade County, Missouri, but their bodies were moved to Vaughn Cemetery, Dade County, Missouri, when Stockton Lake was created.

1. Victoria: b June 19, 1882; d August 16, 1884, of the whooping cough; originally buried at Crisp Cemetery, but moved to Vaughn Cemetery, Dade County, with her parents.

2. Marvin B: b October 12, 1885; m November 6, 1907, Jessie White; d November 8, 1965; buried at Greenfield Cemetery, Dade County, Missouri.

3. Frank A: b January 25, 1890, in Missouri; m November 12, 1924, Fredia McLemore; d September 26, 1962.

4. Francis Carl: b January 8, 1892, in Missouri; m Julia Bellive in California; d July, 1936.

5. Victory (Victor) H: b November 27, 1895; m August 22, 1922, Autumn Mead; d December 6, 1963; buried at Greenfield Cemetery in Greenfield, Dade County, Missouri.

U.24.1.1.1.5
MARY ELLEN WILLETT and FIELD BENTON GLENN of Dade County, Missouri

Mary Ellen Willett was born on May 30, 1867, in Cedar County, Missouri. She married on September 4, 1892, Field(s) Benton Glenn (b October 17, 1846; d July 28, 1928; both in Dade County, Missouri), the son of George Washington and Mary Ellen Locke Glenn. Field was previously married to Sarah Ellen Duncan, and they had ten children before her death. Field had another ten children by Mary Ellen Willett.

Mary Ellen (Willett) Glenn died on February 12, 1941, in Dade County, Missouri.

1. Willard Crayton Glenn: b March 13, 1894; d July 5, 1894; both in Dade County, Missouri.

2. Emma Roberta (Bertie) Glenn: b May 25, 1895, in Dade County, Missouri; m July 28, 1913, Arthur J. (Red) Hall.

3. Susie Golden (Goldie) Glenn: b December 15, 1896, in Dade County; d July 21, 1897, in Dade County.

4. Robert Glenn: b January 7, 1898; d July 28, 1898; both in Dade County, Missouri.

5. Wilburn Willett (Bill) Glenn: b December 15, 1898, in Dade County, Missouri; m 1st June 8, 1921, Hattie Irwin (Erwin); m 2d Goldie; d October 1, 1972, at Blackwell, Oklahoma; buried at I.O.O.F. Cemetery in Blackwell, Oklahoma.

6. George Washington Glenn: b February 23, 1901, in Dade County, Missouri; m March 3, 1929, Clara Rebecca Wilson, in Dade County; d January 17, 1795; buried at Sunset Memorial Gradens inEugene, Lane County, Oregon.

7. William Sherman Glenn: b January 9, 1903; m 1st November 4, 1924, Iva Snoops (Snooks); m 2d Enid Carmack; d October 10, 1965, in Dade County, Missouri; buried at Dadeville Masonic Cemetery in Dadeville, Dade County, Missouri.

8. Hurbert (Hubert) Edward Glenn: b April 9, 1905, in Dade County, Missouri; m October 12, 1930, Estella Pauline Swisher.

9. Ruth Beth (Edith Ruth) Glenn: b January 28, 1905, in Dade County, Missouri; m September 7 (or 27), 1928, Elmer Smith.

10. Jessie Roscoe Glenn: b March 19, 1909; d April 1, 1928; both in Dade County; buried at Dadeville Masonic Cemetery in Dadeville, Dade County, Missouri.

U.24.1.1.1.6
LUCY J. WILLETT and JAMES VANHOOSER of Cedar County, Missouri

Lucy J. Willett was born on February 24, 1872, in Cedar County, Missouri. She married James (Jim) Vanhooser (b March 21, 1872; d 1932).

She died in 1952.

1. Aetna Thoral Vanhooser: b February 28, 1897, at Arcola, Dade County, Missouri; m September 2, 1920, Homer J. Cassada.

2. Julia Elizabeth Vanhooser: b October 20, 1899, in Dadeville, Dade County, Missouri; a teacher; m June 1, 1937, William Edward Minnick; d November 8, 1975, in Oakland, California.

3. Cyrus L. Vanhooser: b January 22, 1902, in Dadeville, Dade County, Missouri; m August, 1935, Velma Cole; was a merchant at Lockwood and Golden City, Missouri; d September 28, 1966; buried at Lockwood, Missouri.

4. Cornelius Barton Vanhooser: b July 26, 1906, in Huston, Kansas; m August 8, 19--, Ruth Harrison in Reno, Nevada.

5. Mildred Margaret Vanhosser: b August 28, 1908, in Arcola, Dade County, Missouri; m September 2, 1950, George E. Amaas; d February 12, 1964.

6. Allie Ellen Vanhooser: b May 24, 1910, in Dadeville, Dade County, Missouri; m December 18, 1943, Malcolm McQueen.

7. James Carl Vanhooser: b August 8, 1912, in Dadeville, Dade County, Missouri; m September 2, 1951, Florence Thomsen, in Reno, Nevada.

U.24.1.1.3

WILLIAM RUFUS WILLETT and ELIZABETH JANE HIGDON of Cedar County, Missouri

William (Bill) Rufus Willett was born on August 30, 1835, in Roane County, Tennessee. He married on March 10, 1861, Elizabeth (Eliza) Jane Higdon (b March 10, 1842, in Alabama; d January 11, 1918, at Cave Springs, Missouri; buried at Omer Cemetery, Cedar County, Missouri). In 1860, he was a farmer. (1860 Cedar County, Missouri, census).

He died on June 4, 1921, in Missouri, and is buried at the Omer Cemetery.

1. Mary Frances: b December 3, 1863, in Cedar County, Missouri; d April 26, 1864, in Missouri; buried at Stockton Cemetery, Cedar County, Missouri.

2. Charles Luther: b April 8, 1865, in Missouri; d April 6, 1879; buried at Stockton Cemetery, Cedar County, Missouri.

3. John Robert: b January 17, 1867, in Missouri; m 1st August 15, 1886, Sallie F. Webster (b May 9, 1866; d April 10, 1899; buried beside her parents at Liberty Cemetery, Cedar County, Missouri), the daughter of Philander and Mary J. Webster; m 2d Minnie Frances Renfro (b May 27, 1868; d May 17, 1904, of tuberculosis); m 3d 1916 Ader T. Underwood (b August 4, 1882, in Missouri; d July 10, 1930), the daughter of William Franklin and Margaret Ann Willett Underwood; he died January 18, 1953, at his home in Kansas City, Jackson County, Missouri. See next U.24.1.1.3.3.

4. Charity Isbell: b December 11, 1868, in Missouri; m Samuel Wilson Lemaster (b MNay 24, 1865, in Missouri; d May, 1952, in Lockwood, Dade County, Missouri), the son of John Calvin and Martha Ann Willett Lemaster; d March 14, 1946, in Missouri; both are buried in the Lockwood Cemetery, Lockwood, Dade County, Missouri.

1. Jessie Lemaster: b July 29, 1888; m John Mathews.

2. Corda Agnes Lemaster: b February 6, 1891, in Missouri; m December 24, 1916, Henry McArthur; d October 25, 1957; both are buried in the Lockwood Cemetery, Lockwood, Dade County, Missouri.

3. Martha Lemaster: b January 6, 1893; m February 23, 1915, Warren Renfro, at Denver, Colorado.

4. Belva Lemaster: m Adner Hamm.

5. John Lee Lemaster: m Alma Hamblin.

6. Elma Lemaster: m Ray Williamson.

7. Charley H. Lemaster: b 1911; m Lonnie Dennis; d 1944; buried at Lockwood, Dade County, Missouri.

5. Matilda Florence: b October 22, 1870, in Missouri; m 1892 James Renfro (b August 17, 1859; d September 15, 1931); removed to Eaton, Colorado in 1909; d November 10, 1968; buried at Eaton, Weld County, Colorado.

1. Warren Renfro: b March 11, 1893; m February 23, 1915, Martha Lemaster, the daughter of Samuel Wilson and Charity Isbell Willett Lemaster.

2. Willa Renfro: b October 15, 1901; m Evertett Burton; in 1968, she was teaching school at Gallup, New Mexico.

6. Joseph Nathaniel: b November 5, 1873, in Missouri; d February 24, 1910, in Cave Springs, Missouri; killed in a sawmill accident; buried at Omer Cemetery, Cedar County, Missouri.

7. Maggie May (Mae): b August 24, 1875, in Dade County, Missouri; m April 16, 1899, Warren Torrence Cavanee (b September 22, 1875, at Cane Hill, Missouri; d April 24, 1937); d April 11, 1968; both are buried at Ivy Lawn Cemetery, Ventura, Ventura County, California.

1. Howard Olan Cavanee: b January 26, 1900; m Edith Addison; d October 22, 1925, in a car accident.

2. Cecil William Cavanee: b October 1, 1904, at Arcola, Dade County, Missouri; m July 3, 1930, Virginia Belle Tonkins.

3. Helene Cavanee: b November 7, 1914; m August 5, 1938, Lewis Anthony Shipley.

8. Lenore (Node) Ella: b December 12, 1877, near Arcola, Dade County, Missouri; m December 12, 1897, Thomas Crisp (b December 9, 1876; d June 29, 1959), at Arcola, Dade County, Missouri; d March 14, 1949.

1. Helma Jewell Crisp: b April 22, 1899, near Crisp, Dade County, Missouri; m June 10, 1922, Clarence F. Maybee.

2. Ivy Chloe Crisp: b December 9, 1900; m December 22, 1920, William J. Fraser.

3. Eva Marguerite Crisp: b January 11, 1904, at Lindley, California; m January, 1925, Stanley Johnson.

4. William Henry Crisp: b October 11, 1905, in Porterville, California? m May, 1945, Helen Spiet.

9. Willa Frances (Willie Dick): b October 15, 1881; m October 5, 1902, Ben E. Ellis (b October 14, 1878; d May 12, 1963); d November 28, 1938; both are buried at Omer Cemetery, Cedar County, Missouri. See next U.24.1.1.3.9.

U.24.1.1.3.3
JOHN ROBERT WILLETT of Cedar County, Missouri

John Robert Willett was born on January 17, 1867, in Missouri. He married 1st August 15, 1886, Sallie F. Webster (b May 9, 1866; d April 10, 1899; buried beside her parents at Liberty Cemetery, Cedar County, Missouri), the daughter of Philander and Mary J. Webster.

He married 2d Minnie Frances Renfro (b May 27, 1868; d May 17, 1904, of tuberculosis).

He married 3d 1916 Ader T. Underwood (b August 4, 1882, in Missouri; d July 10, 1930), the daughter of William Franklin and Margaret Ann Willett Underwood.

John Robert Willett died at his home in Kansas City, Jackson County, Missouri, n January 18, 1953.

1. Clyde: b abt 1888; m and had 2 sons; he started for Australia during World War II and was never heard from again.

2. Ray: b August 3, 1890; in 1968, he was retired and living in Cayucos, California.

3. Luther E: b August 15, 1900, in Missouri; m at least twice; no issue; d 1947-1948 in Okemah, Oklahoma.

4. William Lloyd: b October 8, 1903; d June 18, 1904; buried at Omer Cemetery, Cedar County, Missouri.

5. Mary: b August 9, 1920; m November 12, 1944, John Stewart; in 1968, they were living in Kansas City, Missouri.

U.24.1.1.3.9

WILLA FRANCIS WILLETT and BEN E. ELLIS of Cedar County, Missouri

Willa Frances (Willie Dick) Willett was born on October 15, 1881. She married on October 5, 1902, Ben E. Ellis (b October 14, 1878; d May 12, 1963).

She died on November 28, 1938; both are buried at Omer Cemetery, Cedar County, Missouri.

1. Charles Ralph Ellis: b October 25, 1904; never married.

2. Paul Thornton Ellis: b April 9 (or 10), 1907, near Arcola, Dade County, Missouri; m November 1, 1931, Vesta Singer; d March 7 (or 9), 1963; burieds at Garden of Memories Memorial Park in Salinas, California.

3. John Ellis: b May 2, 1910; m July 30, 1938, Maggie Parker; d May 20, 1967; buried at Omer Cemetery, Cedar County, Missouri.

4. William Franklin Ellis: b January 1, 1914; m 1st Pauline; m 2d Mary Dingles.

5. Mary Frances Ellis: b February 12, 1916; m November 8, 1943, Joseph Earl (Jack) Higgins.

6. Carl Raymond Ellis: b December 11, 1920.

7. Edith Pearl Ellis: b November 25, 1924; m September, 1946, Elmer Ellis.

8. Edna Mae Ellis: b October 16, 1928; d February 6 (or 7), 1947; buried at Omer Cemetery, Cedar County, Missouri.

U.24.1.1.4
WASHINGTON CHURCHILL WILLETT and MARY JANE BROWN of Cedar County, Missouri

Washington Churchill Willett was born on January 6, 1838, in Roane County, Tennessee. In 1860, he was a farm laborer (1860 Cedar County, Missouri, census). He married on April 2, 1861, Mary Jane Brown, in Cedar County, Missouri. He died on November 9, 1907, in Missouri.

Mary Jane (Brown) Willett married as her 2d husband in 1911 Samuel Achord.

1. Elizabeth (Lizzie) Ann: b July 20, 1862; m September 21, 1879, James H. Hartley (b May 23, 1853; d February 11, 1929); d February 5, 1928; both are buried at Stockton Cemetery in Stockton, Cedar County, Missouri.

1. John Churchill Hartley: b February 26, 1881; d January 11, 1885; buried at Stockton Cemetery, Cedar County, Missouri.

2. Alpha Leona Hartley: b September 2, 1890; m May 22, 1910, Everett Clark Suggs.

3. James Elton Hartley: b February 10, 1901; m January 29, 1919, Neva Dale.

2. Lula L: b March 31, 1869; m December 25, 1890, Alfred Michael Brown (b September 9, 1866; d May 17, 1932); d March 2, 1907, at El Paso, El Paso County, Texas; after Lula's death, Alfred married 2d Minnie Etta Willett; Alfred and Lula are buried at Stockton Cemetery, Cedar County, Missouri.

1. Roy James Brown: b April 25, 1892; m 1st April 25, 1918, Osa Ellen Floyd, at the courthouse at Kansas City, Missouri; m 2d 1927, Edna Nevens; m 3d November 16, 1935, Ruth Cross; d June 8, 1963, at Stockton, Cedar County, Missouri.

2. John Clarence Brown: b May 9, 1894; m August 2, 1916, Mabel Lee Rutledge; d May 22, 1951 (or 1956); buried at Stockton Cemetery, Cedar County, Missouri.

3. Orel Elton Brown: b January 2, 1896; m June 6, 1919, Gaynell Conrath.

3. Cyrus Churchill: b August 29, 1871; m January 3, 1894, Evaleen E. Rutledge (b October 4, 1874; d August 25, 1958); he operated a general store at Rowland, Missouri, seven miles south of Stockton; he sold that and operated a store on the west side of Stockton square until his health failed; d March 4, 1954; both are buried at Stockton Cemetery, Cedar County, Missouri. See next U.24.1.1.4.3.

U.23.1.1.4.3
CYRUS CHURCHILL WILLETT and EVALEEN E. RUTLEDGE
of Stockton, Cedar County, Missouri

Cyrus Churchill Willett was born on August 29, 1871. He married on January 3, 1894, Evaleen E. Rutledge (b October 4, 1874; d August 25, 1958).

Cyrus operated a general store at Rowland, Missouri, seven miles south of Stockton. He sold that and operated a store on the west side of Stockton square until his health

failed. He died on March 4, 1954; both are buried at Stockton Cemetery, Cedar County, Missouri.

1. Ethel E: b May 19, 1895; m March 7 (or 8), 1916, Elton Church at the Methodist Parsonage in Stockton, Cedar County, Missouri.

2. Mabel: b February 20, 1900; m February 24, 1917, Leslie Chatham.

3. Lula: b October 6, 1906; m 1st July, 1923, Elmo Gothard; m 2d 1936 Jack Marlet.

4. Arthur: b January 12, 1911; d February 25 (or 26), 1911; buried at Gum Springs Cemetery, Cedar County, Missouri.

U.24.1.1.5

HENRY PURRIS WILLETT and REBECCA ANN WRENN of Cedar County, Missouri

Henry Purris Willett was born on March 7, 1840, in Roane County, Tennessee.

> "Henry P. Willett was an infant when his parents moved to Missouri, and ten years of age when they came to Cedar County. Until 21 years of age, he resided with his father on the farm. August 13, 1864, he enlisted in Company A, Fifteenth Missouri Volunteer Cavalry, and during his service of over eleven months participated in many skirmishes. He received his discharge July 1, 1865" (History of Hickory, Polk, Cedar, Dade and Barton County, (Missouri), 1889, page 787).

He married on December 24 (or 25), 1865, Rebecca Ann Wrenn (b June 10, 1844, in Tennessee), the daughter of Benjamin and Rebecca A. Wrenn.

> "In October, 1866, he located at Stockton, and has since been engaged in farming, being now the owner of 160 acres of land, which farm he has owned since 1883 ... His first Presidential vote was cast for Lincoln in 1864, and he has always been a Republican in politics. He is a member of the G. A. R., Hubbard Post No. 194, and his wife is a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church" (History of Hickory, Polk, Cedar, Dade, and Barton County, (Missouri), 1889, page 787).

He died on September 16, 1915, in Missouri, and is buried at the Stockton Cemetery, Stockton, Cedar County, Missouri.

1. Mary Cordella (Cordie): b March 13, 1867, in Cedar County, Missouri; d of typhoid fever on August 23, 1887, at age 20, in Missouri; buried at Stockton Cemetery, Cedar County, Missouri.

2. James (Jim) Wesley: b April 12, 1869, in Cedar County, Missouri; m November 25, 1896, Ora Jordan (b August 2, 1875; d September 3, 1958) at the Jordan home near Omer,

Cedar County, Missouri; d March 21, 1951, in Springfield, Greene County, Missouri; both are buried at Omer Cemetery, Cedar County, Missouri.

1. Ruba Jane: b January 8, 1902, near Omer, Cedar County, Missouri; m May 26, 1937, Eugene V. Saltman.

2. Welsey Jordan: b July 6, 1904, near Omer, Cedar County, Missouri; m March 3, 1927, Agnes Holman.

3. Claud Russell: b December 29, 1913, near Omer, Cedar County, Missouri; m September 14, 1946, Jean Colley.

3. Lucy Ann: b May 19, 1871, in Missouri; a teacher who never married; d September 13, 19149, in Missouri; buried at Stockton Cemetery, Cedar County, Missouri.

4. Nellie Agnes: b October 13, 1873, in Missouri; a teacher who never married; d May 29, 1959, at Humansville, Polk County, Missouri; buried at Stockton Cemetery, cedar County, Missouri.

5. Minnie Etta: b July 25, 1877, in Stockton, Cedar County, Missouri; m February 26, 1911, Alfred Michael Brown, the son of Alfred Michael and Leah Frances Firestone Brown, as his 2d wife; d June 5, 1949, at Rose Hill School House in Cedar County, Missouri; buried at Stockton Cemetery, Cedar County, Missouri.

1. Ann Leah Brown: b March 5, 1912; m July 27, 1958, Fred William Johnson.

2. Eva Lorene Brown: b January 17, 1915; m July 8, 1934, Henry Theodore Marcum.

6. Claud Henry: b April 4, 1880, in Missouri; m September, 1903, Ellen Walker, the daughter of Levi Walker b March 16, 1884; d January 18, 1971); d May 30 (or 31), 1954; both are buried at Stockton Cemetery, Cedar County, Missouri.

1. Rebecca Ellen: b October 6, 1906; m June 19, 1928, Alva Moody Murray.

2. Harold Walker: b October 1, 1914, in Cedar County, Missouri; m June 28, 1942, Mabel Fox; resided at Stockton, Cedar County, Missouri; grew up on a farm 1 and ½ miles east of Stockton; entered the United States Army in April, 1942, and remained in service for 4 years including 14 months in Europe; d January 26, 1974.

U.24.1.4
ENOCH HANAGER WILLETT and SAVILLA H. RUSSELL
of Roane County, Tennessee, and Callaway County, Missouri

Enoch Hanager Willett was born on March 4, 1817, in Roane County, Tennessee. Enoch H. Willett married at Kingston in Roane County, Tennessee, on February 25, 1836, Savilla (Cecilia) H. Russell (b 1817 in North Carolina; d September 24, 1864; buried in the White Cloud Presbyterian Cemetery in Fulton, Missouri). They were married by William B. Clark. Nathaniel Willett was surety.

In 1840, while he was living in Roane County, he had 5 slaves. They moved from Roane County, Tennessee, after the census was taken and settled 5 miles west of Fulton, Callaway County, Missouri, on a 80 acre farm that Enoch had purchased for $85.00. They remained in Callaway County, Missouri, the rest of their lives. Enoch Willett died on June 5, 1878, and is buried in the White Cloud Presbyterian Cemetery, Fulton, Missouri.

(1840 Roane County, Tennessee, census).

1. (daughter): b 1836 in Roane County, Tennessee. Not in the 1850 census of Callaway County, Missouri. (1840 Roane County, Tennessee, census).

2. Albert: b February 3, 1837, in Tennessee; m January 17, 1867, Susan Emly Fletcher. About 1870, he purchased a farm 3 ½ miles west of Fulton. The farm remains in the family today (1985). (1840 Roane County, Tennessee, census; 1850 Callaway County, Missouri, census). See next U.24.1.4.2.

3. William H: b 1838 in Tennessee; m February 18, 1869, Martha Adley, probably in Callaway County, Tennessee; d January 7, 1887. (1840 Roane County, Tennessee, census; 1850 Callaway County, Missouri, census).

4. Rufus M: b 1840 in Tennessee. (1840 Roane County, Tennessee, census; (1850 Callaway County, Missouri, census).

5. Lafayette: b 1841 in Missouri; unmarried. (1850 Callaway County, Missouri, census).

6. Louisa E: b 1843 in Fulton, Missouri; m in Virginia City, Montana Territory, on November 23, 1881, Samuel Cody. (1850 Callaway County, Missouri, census).

7. John: b February, 1845, in Fulton, Missouri; unmarried. (1850 Callaway County, Missouri, census).

8. Susan Ann: b 1848 in Fulton, Callaway County, Missouri; m 1874 John Henry Bean; d in Callaway County, Missouri. (1850 Callaway County, Missouri, census).

9. Margaret (Margery) Ann: b 1849 in Fulton, Missouri; m William (Bill) Keeton; d in Audrain County, Missouri. (1850 Callaway County, Missouri, census).

10. Robert W: b March, 1851, in Fulton, Callaway County, Missouri; m 1882 Elizabeth Jane Miller; d in Callaway County, Missouri.

11. Thomas: b 1853 in Fulton, Callaway County, Missouri; unmarried.

12. Zadok: b 1854 in Fulton, Callaway County, Missouri; no further information.

U.24.1.4.2
ALBERT WILLETT and SUSAN EMLY FLETCHER of Callaway County, Missouri

Albert Willett was born on February 3, 1837, in Tennessee. His parents removed to Callaway County, Missouri, when he was 3 years old. He grew up on a farm.

He served in Company L, 9th Regiment, Missouri State Cavalry (Federal Militia), along with his brothers, R. Marion and Lafayette Willett. After the war, he was a cabinet maker; some of his furniture still survives. Albert Willett married on January 17, 1867, Susan Emly Fletcher. About 1870, Albert purchased 40 acres, 4 miles west of Fulton, reportedly with his Civil War bonus. Later, he added 40 more acres. This 60 acre farm remains in the Willett family today (1985).

About 1878, Susan Willett left her husband and never returned; Albert raised his young son and never remarried. Albert died on August 30, 1912, and is buried at Central Christian Church.

1. John Henry: b April 26, 1871; raised by his father; inherited the family farm; m Kate Miller (b August 4, 1874; d December 25, 1905); d February 10, 1955. See next U.24.1.4.2.1.

U.24.1.4.2.1
JOHN HENRY WILLETT and KATE MILLER of Callaway County, Missouri

John Henry Willett was born on the family farm on April 26, 1871. His mother left when he was young and he was raised by his father. He married Kate Miller (b August 4, 1874; d December 25, 1905), the daughter of John Oscar Miller and Mary Jane Willett (the daughter of David Willett).

He inherited the family farm, and lived and died there.

1. Roy Backer: b April 3, 1897; m 1923 Minnie Elizabeth Metz (b 1900); raised on the family farm; d October, 1951.

1. Paul Emerson: b January 19, 1925, in Fulton, Callaway County, Missouri; m Billie Maye Reeves (b January 17, 1929, in Fulton, Callaway County, Missouri), the daughter of David Richard Reeves and Ruth May Davis. He was a sergeant in the 7th Infantry Division in campaigns on Leyte Island, and Okinawa; returned to active duty in 1952 and served in Japan, Germany, France, Korea, and the Dominican Republic; retired in 1970 with the rank of Chief Warrant Officer; in 1982, elected as a Western District Judge of the county court.

1. Robin Faye: b January 17, 1951, at Fort Rucker, Alabama; m 1972 Stephen Richard Taylor of Stafford, Missouri; graduated from Drury College, Springfield, Missouri, in 1973; resides in Panama City, Florida.

U.24.1.5
DAVID M. WILLETT and MARGARET W. DAVIS of Callaway County, Missouri

David M. Willett was born on April 16, 1820, in Tennessee. He married on February 10, 1845, Margaret W. Davis (b June 26, 1824, in Virginia; d February 20, 1892). He was in Callaway County, Missouri, in 1850. They came to Callaway County with Enoch H. Willet and purchased about 170 acres 2 miles west of Enoch's farm.

His father, William Willett, age 72, was living with them in 1850. David M. Willett died on June 12, 1894, and both he and his wife are buried in the Miller Creek Methodist Church Cemetery in Millersburg, Missouri. (1850 Callaway County, Missouri, census).

1. Mary Jane: b August 29, 1846, in Missouri; m January 5, 1870, John Oscar Miller; d December 30, 1905. (1850 Callaway County, Missouri, census).

2. William C: b June 27, 1848, in Missouri; d August 15, 1871. (1850 Callaway County, Missouri, census).

3. Caroline: b late summer 1850 in Missouri. (1850 Callaway County, Missouri, census).

4. Matilda: b abt 1852; m June 16, 1870, William Bowen.

5. Richard Warren: b abt 1855; m Alice Crocket Boyd.

6. John: b June 17, 1856; m October 2, 1878, Mollie Boyd; d March 20, 1941.

7. George E: b April, 1858; unmarried.

8. Eddie (daughter): b March 11, 1871; m W. C. Mountjoy; d February 2, 1908.

9. Iba Mae: b August 11, 1888; d at age 2 months. Probably a grandchild.

10. Guy: b 1898; d June 11, 1907, age 9 years and 5 months. Probably a grandchild.

U.24.2
ENOCH WILLETT and ELIZABETH FORD of Roane County, Tennessee

Enoch Willett was born about 1781, probably in Pennsylvania. He supposedly met Eliza Ford (b abt 1790; d 1840) in Fluvanna County, Virginia (originally a part of Albermarle County) about 1805. The Fords settled in Grassy Cove, Tennessee.

An Enath (sic) Willett was living in Roane County in 1805 (tax list). On March 12, 1807, Enoch Willett married Elizabeth Ford in Grassy Cove, Roane County, Tennessee. William Willett was the surety for this marriage.

On April 15, 1817, Enoch Willett signed a petition to retain the district lines. In the fall of 1821, the corn in the fields was full of weevils. At this time, Enoch lived on the Cumberland Mountain. On December 7, 1821, Enoch sent his brother-in-law, George Grove, a gun by Stephen Grove (George's brother). At this time Enoch was living on the Cumberland Mountain. Today, the Cumberland Mountain separate the eastern corner of Kentucky from the western most tip of Virginia. The Powell and the Clinch Rivers run southwestward from this area across Tennessee and through Roane County. There is also

a Cumberland County, Tennessee, which adjoins Roane County to the west. It is not known at this time which area Enoch Willett lived in.

In 1822, Enoch owned 42 acres of land; he had 1 white poll, and 1 black poll.

Life for a farmer could be hard. In the fall of 1830, there "was no Rain to wet the ground from the 3rd of July till winter" (George Grove's diary).

Enoch Willett died (probably) in 1831 or 1832. Only Elizabeth Willett is mentioned as the head of the household in the 1840 Roane County census. Two females are mentioned in her family who could be the wives of her sons.

Enoch's children left Roane County, Tennessee, in 1849, for Missouri, with intentions to follow their fortunes to the California Gold Rush.

1. James W: b 1810-1815 (1810-1820) in Roane County, Tennessee; m in Roane County on August 9, 1832, Christine Campbell; living in Roane County in 1840 next door to his mother. They had at least 4 children (names unknown).

    1. (female): b abt 1834 (5 to 10 years old in 1840).

    2. (female): b abt 1836 (under 5 years of age in 1840).

    3. (female): b abt 1838 (under 5 years of age in 1840).

    4. (son): b abt 1840 (under 5 years of age in 1840).

2. Fletcher: b abt 1815 in Roane County, Tennessee; m Etty Riley (b Leeds, England); he was in Missouri in 1849 when he followed by wagon train that fall the Gold Rush to California; raised grapes; resided Sonoma County, California, in 1885.

3. Nathaniel: b abt 1820 in Roane County, Tennessee; lived at West Port (now Independence), Missouri, in March 1849; d at Westport (now Independence), Missouri, in 1849. (1840 Roane County census; born 1820-1825).

4. John Nelson: b September 16, 1822, in Roane County, Tennessee; orphaned in 1840 at age 18; settled in Missouri; m October 21, 1865, in Missouri, Mrs. Mary E. Price; resided in Harrisonville, Missouri, in April, 1854; settled in Harrisonville, Missouri, and died there on March 28, 1916. (1840 Roane County census; born 1820-1825). See next U.24.2.4.

5. Elizabeth Sarah: October 28, 1828, in Roane County, Tennessee; m in the home of General John Brown in Roane County, Tennessee, on June 19, 1845, Nathaniel Henry Smith; they resided in Washington, Rhea County, Tennessee. (1840 Roane County census; born 1825-1830).

    1. Eliza J. Smith: b abt 1848.

    2. John W. Smith: b abt 1852.

    3. Mattie Minerva Smith: b November 16, 1865; m May 23, 1886, James Lyde Young, in Washington County, Tennessee.

U.24.2.4

JOHN NELSON WILLETT and MARY E. PRICE of Harrisonville, Cass County, Missouri

John Nelson Willett was born on September 16, 1822, in Roane County, Tennessee. He was orphaned in 1840 at age 18. He removed to Bledsoe County, Tennessee, to live with his grandfather Ford where he learned the tanning trade.

In the spring of 1841, he removed to Rhea County, Tennessee. In 1849, he left for California.

> "In 1849, he decided to go to the California gold fields. The route of the wagon train, which he journeyed through, took him north of Salt Lake. After suffering many hardships, and being on the way for 6 months, he arrived in Sacramento, California, in the fall of 1849. In the gold mines of that vicinity, he remained until 1851, when he started back to Harrisonville. At San Francisco he took a ship for Panama, from which place he walked across the Isthmus to Aspinwall, or Colon, to take a ship for Havana, Cuba. There he again shipped for New Orleans, changing boats for teh trip up the Mississippi River to St. Louis, thence up the Missouri River to Arrow Rock, from which place he took the stage to Independence and completed the trip to Harrisonville, arriving there in the fall of 1851.
>
> Later he opened a merchantile business in this town, conducting this general store for 18 months. In 1853, he quit this business and followed the real estate, loan and collection business until 1861. In the spring of 1863, he left for Santa Fe, New Mexico, remaining there about seven months, and returning to Harrisonville, in the fall of that year. Later he went to Denver, Colorado, and remained about two months, following the freighting business. From there he drove a team to Omaha, Nebraska, and there remained until the close of the Civil War" (History of Cass County (Missouri), pages 441-442.

John Willett married on October 21, 1865, in Missouri, Mrs. Mary E. Price. They resided in Harrisonville, Missouri, in April, 1854. He settled in Harrisonville, Missouri, and died there on March 28, 1916.

(1840 Roane County census).

1. Vernon John: b abt 1870, at Harrisonville, Cass County, Missouri.

U.24.3

SARAH WILLETT and GEORGE GROVE of Mascot, Knox County, Tennessee

Sarah (Sally) Willett was born on June 8, 1783, in Virginia. Sometime in the 1790s, her parents immigrated to Roane County, Tennessee, and settled at Kingston. She married in Roane County, Tennessee, on August 26, 1805, George Grove (b January 8, 1779, in Loudon County, Virginia; d September 26, 1860, in Tennessee), the son of William and Elenor Reeder Grove who had been married on April 24, 1776.

After their marriage, about 1815, George Grove inherited the Grove family homestead in adjacent Knox County, Tennessee. James Willett, Sarah (Willett) Grove's father had died about this time, and her mother Sarah came to live with them at their home near what is now Mascot, Knox County, Tennessee.

George Grove kept a small diary, and many of the facts and quotations come direct from it. Most of the entries for the year 1831 are quoted to show how a pioneer in Kentucky was effected by visits, inventions, and seasons, and the weather.

"December 7, 1821: Enoch Willett sent me a gun by Stephen Grove from Cumberland Mountains." (Stephen Grove is George's brother).

"December 1, 1828: Started with Maria Grove (his daughter) to Cumberland Mountain to Willett's, got back on the 10th, same month."

August 17, 1829: "Young and White hung at Knoxville. Both for murder."

"June the 24th, 1831: took Neri (his son) to Knoxville to Doct(or) Thing. Saw the steam bote (sic)." This was probably one of the first steam boats in this part of Kentucky.

"June the 30th: began to cut wheat."

"July the 4th: Taken with the cramps which thrown me into a fit. Then on the 11th November it was the same." George Grove was plagued with severe cramps, perhaps even what we would today class as epilsey.

"Camp meeting began September 16th, 1831."

"November 10th: made out Grant."

"November the 14th: began to sow wheat."

"Doct(or) Shelby came to see me on the 21st of Novembeer, 1831. December 10th: Doct. Shelby caim again."

"From November 26th, 1831, till January the 9th, 1832, never got out of reach of the house."

"September the 20th, 1831: went to Knoxville to the Doctor for Susanna" (George's daughter).

"Mary Willett came from Jefferson (either Jefferson City, or the County) on her way to Kingston October the 13th; went on the 14th, 1831."

In 1833, three of George's brothers, Aaron Willett Grove, Stephen Grove, and William G. Grove, took sick when the fever "took their head." Aaron, and Stephen died within 30 days of each other. William recovered.

Sarah (Willett) Grove died on August 6, 1854.

1. Aaron (Aron) Willett Grove: b September 23, 1807; d November 24, 1833; both in Knox County, Tennessee. On July 2, 1828, Aaron W. Grove left home; he went to the purchase, then to Cumberland Mountain. Aaron stayed through the summer and into the fall, and arrived back "from the Mountain on the 3d day of December, 1828.

On October 24, 1830, "Aaron W. Grove left home for Kentucky, Caldwell County." Aaron became sick with a fever which "took his head" on Saturday, October 27; he got quite deranged on November 14, Thursday, and died on Sunday morning at 6 o'clock on NOvember 24th (diary of George Grove).

2. Maria Grove: b September 23, 1807, in Knox County, Tennessee; died young.

3. Susanna Grove: b March 3, 1809, in Knox County, Tennessee; m December 11, 1832, in Knox County, Tennessee, William Davis (b April 8, 1810, Knox County, Tennessee; d April 3, 1898, Polk County, Missouri).

1. James Willett Davis: b August 10, 1834, Sunday morning.

4. William G. Grove: b December 8, 1810, Knox County, Tennessee; m October 17, 1835, Sarah Corum. On October 21, 1833, he came down with a fever; he got quite deranged on Saturday, November 19, but recovered.

5. Melvina L. Grove: b December 23, 1812; ; m April 16, 1835 Thomas Reeder (b 1814); d October 6, 1856.

6. Stephen T. Grove: b February 5, 1815; d October 19, 1833; both in Knox County, Tennessee.

7. Eleanor R. Grove: b September 15, 1818, in Knox County, Tennessee; unmarried.

8. Neri H. Grove: b March 31, 1821, Knox County, Tennessee; m December 23, 1841, Nancy Harbison.

9. Ragan (Ragau, Ragain) Grove: b July 12, 1823, in Knox County, Tennessee; m November 15, 1851, Nancy Keeling. His name is clearly and consistently spelled Ragau in George Grove's diary; however, George was a poor speller.

U.25
JOSEPH WILLETT and LUCRETIA CHOATE of Shelby County, Tennessee

Joseph Willett was born about 1805. He married in Shelby County, Tennessee, on September 27, 1831, Lucretia Choate (born in 1817 in Tennessee). He must have died between 1843-1850. (1850, 1860 Shelby County census).

Shelby County is in the extreme western tip of the state on the Mississippi River; Memphis is the county seat.

1. Mary: b 1833. She is not in the 1860 census. (1850 Shelby County census).

2. Lucy: b 1835. (1850, 1860 Shelby County census).

3. Martha: b 1840. (1850, 1860 Shelby County census).

4. Joanna: b 1843. (1850, 1860 Shelby County census).

U.26
NATHAN WILLETT and ELLEN of Sullivan County, Tennessee

There is a Nathan Willet (b 1780-1790) living in Sullivan County, Tennessee, in 1812 (tax list) and in 1830 (1830 census). Nathan was an Ensign in the 2d Tennessee Militia on April 13, 1814; he was a Lieutenant of the 2d Regiment on September 23, 1815 (Officers in the Tennessee Militia, 1796-1825, Moore, pages 238, 256).

His wife was born 1780-1790. Nathan probably died between 1835 and 1850. The Ellenor Willett in the 1850 and 1860 censuses may be his wife.

Ellenor Willett was born in 1786 in Tennessee. She lived in Sullivan County, Tennessee. The following list of children is uncertain and is a combination list compiled from Nathan in 1830 and Ellenor (1850 and 1860 censuses).

Sullivan County is in the extreme eastern tip of the state and borders Virginia; Blountville is the county seat. (1850 Sullivan County census).

1. (daughter): b abt 1805. (1830 census).

2. (daughter): b abt 1817. (1830 census).

3. John: b 1820 in Tennessee. (1830? 1850 Sullivan County census).

4. Mary E: b 1822. Possibly the wife of John above. (1830? 1850, 1860 Sullivan County census).

5. (son): b abt 1822. (1830 census).

6. (daughter): b abt 1828. (1830 census).

7. James: b 1831. (1850 Sullivan County census).

8. Nathan R: b 1833. (1850, 1860 Sullivan County census).

U.27
ZACHARIAH WILLET of Washington County, Tennessee

Zachariah (also known as Zadok) Willet was born about 1735. His birthplace is unknown, but there is a Zadok Willet in western Virginia at this time who may be the same person, or his father. (Note: If Zadok Willett of Berkeley County, (West) Virginia, and Zadok Willett of Washington County, Tennessee, are one and the same, then his ancestry is traced through Charles Willett of Maryland back to Edward Willett.

A Zadok Willett was in the militia in Berkeley County, (West) Virginia, in the 1775 era. Zadok Willett, of Berkeley County sold land in 1791 and again in 1798.

Zadok Willet married about 1790 Ann.

A Zadok Willett and family is living in Washington County, Tennessee, in 1797. On November 4, 1799, Zadock Willett, Adam Lowery, and Jesse Payne, witnessed the will of Jane Nelson. Zachariah (or Zadok?) Willet owned 152 acres in Washington County, Tennessee, in 1814, and in 1819 (tax list).

A Zadok Willett was the administrator of Francis Willett's estate in 1821. This was probably the father, Zadok who administered the estate of his son.

Zadock died in 1823 in Washington County, Tennessee. Washington is in the eastern tip of the state; Jonesboro is the county seat. (Record of Washington County, Tennessee, Volume 1, August 1779 to February 1857, page 140; Zadok Willett will dated March 26, 1821). Zadok Willett's will was proven in the January Session of the 1823 Court: it names wife, Ann; son Washington; grandson Joseph Willett; daughters Betsey, Fanny; deceased son Francis; daughters Polly Marshall; grandson Zadok W. Morgan; daughters Peggy Clawson, Nancy Hendley, Letty Simpson, Sally Morgan; son Zadok, Jr. The executors were Betsey and Zadok Willett; witnesses: John Link, Jacob Whistler, and William L. French.

1. Washington: b abt 1770; m abt 1790; he was a Major; resided in Washington County, Tennessee; d after 1830. On May 26, 1830, he was the bondsman for the marriage of Martin Kortz to Sarah Hunter in Washington County. He may be the W. Willett who was the bondsman for the marriage of Isaac Lamon and Liddy Benley on June 19, 1832, also in Washington County.

1. Joseph: b abt 1800. (Note: Could this be the Joseph Willett who married in Washington County, on March 10, 1825, Susan Stout?).

2. Betsey: b abt 1772; d after 1823.

3. Fanny: b abt 1775; d after 1823.

4. Francis: b 1777 in Shephards Town, Jefferson County, (West) Virginia; removed to Washington County, Tennessee, about 1796 with his father; later settled at Waterloo, Lauderdale County, Alabama; d 1820-1821. See next U.27.4.

5. Polly: b abt 1780; m Marshall; d after 1823.

6. Peggy: b abt 1785; m Clawson; d after 1823.

7. Nancy: b abt 1790; m Hendley; d after 1823.

8. Letty (Lilly): b abt 1805; m Simpson; d after 1823.

9. Sally: b abt 1810; m Morgan (Moyan); d after 1823.

1. Zadok W. Morgan: b abt 1830.

10. Zadok (Zedekiah, Jr.): b abt 1814; m abt 1843 Mary; moved to Lauderdale County, Alabama. See next U.27.10.

U.27.4
FRANCIS WILLETT and POLLY HUMPHRIES of Lauderdale County, Alabama

Francis Willett was born on December 3, 1777, about 10 miles from Shepard's Town in Barclay (sic: most likely Berkeley) County, (West) Virginia. He grew up in Washington County, Tennessee. Francis married on April 3, 1800, at the house of Richard Willett, Polly H. Humphries (b August 1, 1782, in Washington County, Tennessee, on the Nola Chucky River). Richard Humphries' house was on the Nola Chucky River in Washington County, Tennessee. They made their home in Lauderdale County, Alabama.

There was a Francis Willett living in Washington County in 1814 (tax list). Francis Willett was a bondsman on February 7, 1814, at the marriage of Abraham Tipton and Polly Boring. Francis Willett died early in 1825. His inventory is dated May 25, (1821?)

1. Susannah: b February 1, 1801, in Washington County, Tennessee; m on January 2, 1816, Thomas Whitson; Jonathan Mulkey was their bondsman. They went from Washington County, Tennessee, to Tipton County, Tennessee, to Lauderdale County, Alabama; d abt 1847 or 1848, in Panolsa County, Mississippi. See next U.27.4.1.

2. Richard H: b on February 1, 1803, in Washington County, Tennessee; m abt 1825 Elizabeth (b 1813 in Virginia); resided in Lauderdale County, Alabama; possibly the Richard H. Willett living in Lauderdale County in 1830 (1830 Lauderdale County, Alabama, census). The 1830 census shows the following family: 0-0-0-0-1-1 0-0-0-0-2-0-0-1

Richard H. Willett was commissioned a Justice of the Peace of Lauderdale County, Alabama, on April 10, 1832, March 26, 1835, and November 11, 1850. (1850 Lauderdale County, Alabama, census).

3. Sarah (Elizabeth): b September 25, 1800, in Grainger County, Tennessee.

4. Nancy: b December 25, 1807, in Grainger County, Tennessee.

5. Polly Ann: b January 10, 1810, in Washington County, Tennessee.

6. James M: b December 11, 1811, in Washington County, Tennessee.

7. Zedekiah: b January 10, 1814, in Washington County, Tennessee.

8. Ann: b April 1, 1816, in Washington County, Tennessee.

9. Angela (Angeline): b August 30, 1818, in Washington County, Tennessee.

U.27.4.1
SUSANNAH WILLETT and THOMAS WHITSON of Lauderdale County, Alabama

Susannah Willett was born on February 1, 1801, in Washington County, Tennessee She married on January 2, 1816, Thomas Whitson. They went from Washington County, Tennessee, to Tipton County, Tennessee, to Lauderdale County, Alabama.

She died about 1847 or 1848, in Panolsa County, Mississippi.

1. John Whitson: b abt 1817.

2. Stephen Whitson: b abt 1818.

3. Mary Whitson: b abt 1820; m abt 1838 or 1839 Joab Payne.

4. Caroline Whitson: b abt 1822.

5. Amanda Whitson:

6. Elizabeth Whitson:

7. Blackstone Whitson:

8. Thomas J. Whitson:

9. Susanna Whitson:

10. Angeline Paine Whitson:

U.27.10
ZADOK WILLETT, Jr. of District No. 1, Lauderdale County, Alabama

Zadok (Zedekiah, Jr.) Willett was born in 1814 in Tennessee. He married about 1843 Mary (b 1827 in Alabama). They removed from Washington County, Tennessee, to Lauderdale County, Alabama, either immediately before, or immediately after their marriage. Zadok was commissioned a constable of Lauderdale County on September 20, 1839. He was commissioned a Justice of the Peace of Lauderdale on April 23, 1850.

In 1850, Washington Tucker (b 1837 in Alabama, age 13) was living in the Zadok Willett household. (1850 Lauderdale County, Alabama, census).

1. Mary: b 1844 in Alabama.

2. William: b 1845 in Alabama.

3. Elizabeth: b 1848 in Alabama.

4. Martha: b September, 1849; d August 1850, age 11 months, after 13 days of fever.

5. Francis: b September, 1850; d October 1850, age one month, after 1 day of "thrash."

U.28
ZADOK WILLETT of Washington County, Tennessee

There was a Zadok Willett family living in Washington County, Tennessee. Zadok must have been born before 1770 and possibly about 1755. He had died about 1809 or before and left a widow and 8 children.

Joannah was his wife. They may have been married about 1775. She was living in 1809-1810. On July 24, 1810, Hannah (but signed Joannah) conveyed to James, Robert, Nathan, Nimrod, Edward, Nancy, Betsey, Thomas, and Juliet, a tract of land in Washington County, Tennessee, of 51 acres which was part of a tract that had been conveyed from France A. Ramsey to Zadok Willett. Adjoining land owners were: Henry Nelson? Hreary Dinurdy? Yeager's corner, Hutton's corner, and Trimble's corner. Witnesses to this indenture were: James McAllister, and Moses Stout (Washington County, Tennessee, Book 12, pages 352-353).

The children's birthdates are only estimated and may be wrong by a decade.

1. James: b abt 1777.

2. Robert: b abt 1780.

3. Nathan: b abt 1782.

4. Nimrod: b abt 1785.

5. Nancy: b abt 1787.

6. Betsey: b abt 1790.

7. Thomas: b abt 1792.

8. Juliet: b abt 1795.

U.29
NIMROD C. WILLETT and LYDIA CRAWFORD
of Washington County, and Greene County, Tennessee

Nimrod C. Willett was born about 1785. He married in Greene County, Tennessee, on December 27, 1816, Lydia Crawford (b abt 1795). They were married by Stephen Brooks, P. G; Andrew Parks security. Washington County and Greene County are adjoining counties in the eastern tip of Tennessee.

Nimrod C. Willett purchased North Carolina land grant no. 9502 in the state of Tennessee: "140 acres on Little Chuckey, adjoining his own land, Guins, and Weese. Entry No. 12, April 5, 1848, at 12 ½ cents an acre. Granted (orginally) at Murfreesborough, October 9, 1824" (North Carolina Land Grants Recorded in Greene County, Tennessee, 1981, page 90).

Nimrod C. Willett purchased North Carolina land grant no. 16174 in the state of Tennessee: "20 acres on the southside of Little Chuckey, adjoining John Weese. Entry No. 5982, April 30, 1823, founded on Warrant No. 2228; issued to David Perry for 50 acres, January 26, 1809. 20 acres of which are assigned to Nimrod C. Willett, enterer. Granted

(originally) October 15, 1829" (North Carolina Land Grants Recorded in Greene County, Tennessee, 1981, page 91).

Nimrod Willett is in both the 1814 and 1819 Washington County tax lists. In 1826, Nimrod Willet witnessed the will of Samuel Greer. (1830

On June 3, 1843, Isabella Crawford left $100.00 each to her grandchildren, Amanda, Harriet, and Daniel Willett (Greene County, Tennesse, Wills 1783-1890, 1981, page 59).

1. (daughter): b abt 1817. (1830 Washington County census).

2. (son): b abt 1818. (1830 Washington County census).

3. Daniel: b abt 1822. (1830 Washington County census).

4. Amanda: b abt 1823. (1830 Washington County census).

5. Harriet: b abt 1827. (1830 Washington County census).

U.30
GEORGE W. WILLETT and ELIZA MONTGOMERY CROOKSHANKS
of Washington County, Tennessee

George W. Willett was born in 1806 in Tennessee. He married in Washington County, Tennessee, on August 7, 1834, Eliza Montgomery Crookshanks (b 1816 in Tennessee). In 1850, he was Sheriff of Washington County, Tennessee. He died in 1856. Both are buried in the cemetery in Jonesborough, Washington County, Tennessee. (1860 Washington County census).

1. William F: b July 15, 1835, in Tennessee; d November 26, 1848; buried in the Jonesborough Cemetery, Washington County, Tennessee.

2. Zadok (Zed) T: b 1839, in Tennessee; d 1862; buried in the Jonesborough Cemetery, Washington County, Tennessee. (1850 Washington County census).

3. George W: b 1841, in Tennessee. (1850 Washington County census).

4. Sam A: b 1844, in Tennessee; d 1863. (1860 Washington County census).

5. Sarah E: b 1847, in Tennessee. (1850 Washington County census).

6. Nancy A: b 1853. (1860 Washington County census).

U.31

JOSEPH WILLETT and SUSAN STOUT of Limestone, Washington County, Tennessee

Joseph Willett was born in 1800 in Tennessee. Bookstaver places him in a New Jersey family; however, the generations are very confused in Bookstaver, so Joseph Willett is here listed separately until his proper ancestry is discovered.

Joseph Willett married on March 10, 1825, in Washington County, Tennessee, Susan Stout (b 1801), the daughter of John and Mary Stout of Limestone, Washington County, Tennessee (Marriage Records of Washington County, Tennessee, page 26). He lived in Washington County, Tennessee, in 1860. John Stout had came from Holland about the time of the Revolution, and had served with Andrew Jackson in the Creek and English Wars.

Joseph Willett resided on a farm in Limestone, Tennessee, all his life.

One tradition states that his parents are John and Sarah (Broyles) Willett who had come from Maryland to Limestone, Washington County, Tennessee (Dictionary of Alabama Biography, page 1768). Another states that he is descended from an illusive Zadock Willett of Maryland.

(1850 Washington County census).

1. Elbert Decatur: b May 21, 1828, probably in Tennessee; m December 17, 1856, Candace Bostick; d March 16, 1890. (1850 Washington County census). See next U.31.1.

2. Daniel W: b 1830. (1850 Washington County census).

3. Martha A: b 1836. (1850, 1860 Washington County census).

4. Geo. Washington: b 1838. (1850, 1860 Washington County census).

5. Susan M: b 1838. (1850, 1860 Washington County census).

6. Louisa (Louza) C: b 1841. (1850, 1850 Washington County census).

7. Emaline: b 1843. (1850, 1850 Washington County census).

8. Parthemia A: b 1848. (1850 Washington County census).

U.31.1

ELBERT DECATUR WILLETT and CANDACE BOSTICK
of Carrollton, Pickens County, Alabama

Elbert Decatur was born on May 21, 1828, at Limestone, Washington County, Tennessee. Most of his youth was spent in Washington County, Tennessee.

> He "received his primary education in the schools of Limestone, Washington County, Tennessee; attended Washington College at Jonesboro, Tennessee; was graduated from Emory and Henry College, Abington, Virginia, Bachelor or Arts on June 9, 1852. He read law at Jonesboro, Tennessee, in the office of Thomas A. R. Nelson, afterwards Chief Justice of Tennessee and counsel for Andrew Johnson in the impeachment proceedings."

Elbert Willett "removed to Carrollton, Pickens County, Tennessee, in 1854, and taught school for several years, after which he formed a legal partnership with Alexander B. Clitheral.

He continued this association until 1861, when he entered the Confederate Army. He was captain of Company B, Fortieth Alabama, from its organization at Speeds Mill in Pickens County on March 13, 1862, until he was promoted to Major of the Fortieth Alabama on May 5, 1865.

After the war he formed a partnership with John T. Terry under the firm name of Terry and Willett, and continued that association until 1872. He was elected mayor of Carrollton; was a member of the Constitutional Convention of 1875 from Greene and Pickens Counties; and was a Representative from Pickens County in the State Legislature, 1878-1879. He was a Democrat; a steward in the Methodist Church, South; and a Mason.

He wrote a diary containing the history of the Fortieth Alabama Regiment, C. S. Army, which was afterwards published in book form by his son Joseph J. Willett" (Dictionary of Alabama Biography, page 1768).

Elbert Willett married on December 17, 1856, at Carrollton, Alabama, Candace Bostick (b November, 1833), the daughter of General Francis White and Candace Mentora (Wood) Bostick. They had 13 children, of which 6 died in infancy.

He died on March 16, 1890, in Carrollton. (1900 Pickens County, Alabama, census).

1. Frank W: b abt 1858; d in 1894.

2. Elbert Decatur: b March 24, 1859, at Carrollton, Alabama; m June 27, 1901, Julia Faulkner Ridley. (1900 Pickens County, Alabama, census). See next U.31.1.2.

3. Joseph Jackson: b September 29, 1861; m April 21, 1892, Melanie Woods. See next U.31.1.3.

4. Effie May: b May, 1864, in Alabama; m David B. Mayfield.

1. Bessie May Mayfield: b September, 1895, in Missouri; m Clarence Henig of Huntington.

5. George Washington: b abt 1870; A. B., University of Alabama; M. D. Bellevue Hospital Medical College, 1893; physician in Atlanta, Georgia.

6. Elizabeth B: b abt 1872; m Elmore.

7. Archibald Miott: b February, 1874, in Alabama; A. B., Georgetown University, 1895; lawyer at Carrollton, Alabama; d October, 1905. (1900 Pickens County, Alabama, census).

U.31.1.2
ELBERT DECATUR WILLETT and JULIA FAULKNER RILEY
of Carrollton, Pickens County, Alabama

Elbert Decatur Willett was born on March 24, 1859, at Carrollton, Pickens County, Alabama.

> "He received his early education at Carrollton, Alabama; attended the University of Tennessée at Knoxville, 1875-1877; entered the University of Alabama in 1877 and was graduated from there, B. A., in July, 1878.
>
> He read law in the office of his father in Carrollton, and was licensed to practice in March, 1880. He entered the practice of law at Carrollton, March 24, 1880, and continued his profession there until the spring of 1887, when he removed to Anniston, Calhoun County, Alabama.
>
> He became a member of the law firm of Brothers, Willett, and Willett, composed of S. D. G. Brothers, Joseph J. Willett, and himself. Upon the death of his father in March, 1890, he returned to Carrollton, and resumed his practice there.
>
> From 1890 to 1897, he practiced alone, and in the latter year, entered into practice with A. M. Willett. He was a member of the State Legislature from Pickens County, 1882-1887, District of Alabama, 1900; and was a member of the Sixth Constitutional Convention of 1901, as the sole representative of Pickens County. He was editor of the West Alabamian, a weekly newspaper published in Carrollton, 1898-1901" (Dictionary of Alabama Biography, page 1769).

He was a democrat and a Master Mason.

He married on June 27, 1901, at Decatur, Georgia, Julia Faulkner Ridley, the daughter of Dr. Charles B. and Martha Elizabeth (Bell) Ridley of Lagrange, Troupe County, Georgia.

1. Julia Ridley: b abt 1903.

U.31.1.3
JOSEPH JACKSON WILLETT and MELANIE WOODS
of Anniston, Calhoun County, Alabama

Joseph J. Willett was born on September 29, 1861, at Carrollton, Pickens County, Alabama.

> "He obtained his early education in Carrollton, entered the University of Alabama at Tuscaloosa in September, 1877, and was graduated, M. A., July, 1880. He read law in his father's office in Carrollton, 1881-1882, and in August of the latter year was licensed to practice by Chancellor Thomas Cobbs.
>
> He moved to Anniston in August, 1883, and has practiced his profession there since that time. He was president of the Alabama State

> Bar Association, 1899 and 1900; is a Democrat; and a Royal Arch Mason" (Dictionary of Alabama Biography, page 1769).

He married on April 21, 1892, Melanie Woods (b December, 1867, in Georgia), the daughter of William Henry and Elizabeth Jewett (McIntosh) Woods (b March, 1845, in North Carolina) who lived in Eufaula, Alabama, Savannah, Georgia, and New York City.

They lived on a large planatation in Pickens County, Alabama. He was known in later life by the honorary title of Judge Joseph Willett. (1900 Calhoun County, Alabama, census).

1. Elbert Henry: b May, 1893, in Alabama; m Laura Jennings. (1900 Calhoun County, Alabama, census). See next U.31.1.3.1.

2. Elisabeth: b April, 1895, in Alabama. (1900 Calhoun County, Alabama, census).

3. Joseph Jackson: b February, 1897, in Alabama. (1900 Calhoun County, Alabama, census).

U.31.1.3.1

ELBERT HENRY WILLETT and LAURA JENNINGS of Anniston, Calhoun County, Alabama

Elbert Henry was born May, 1893, in Anniston, Calhoun County, Alabama.

> "Educated in the Episcopal High School, Alexandria, Virginia. Mr. Willett is a member of the Exchange Club. He is an Episcopalian and member of Grace Episcopal Church" (Alabama Blue Book and Social Register, page 19).

He married Laura Jennings, the daughter of Frank and Laurie (Comer) Jennings of Eufaula. They reside at 1424 Christine Avenue, Anniston, Alabama.

1. Lucy Tyler:

2. Laurie Comer: b abt 1920; graduated from Randolph Macon College in Lynchburg, Virginia; m in 1943, Lieutenant John Edward Kelly of Stamford, Connecticutt, and Fort Belvior, Virginia.

3. Elbert H., Jr: b abt 1922; attended the Marion Military Institute and was a graduate of the U. S. Naval Academy at Annapolis in 1945; m November 3, 1945, at the Silver Chapel, Fort McClellan, Georgia, Miss Jean Daly Lloyd, the daughter of Dr. and Mrs. William K. Lloyd.

4. Joseph Francis (Frank): b abt 1925; a nationally known (in 1943) tennis champion.

U.32
WILLIAM WILLETT and MARY TATUM of Williamson County, Tennessee

William Willett was born about 1774. In 1802, Absalom Tatum of Orange County, North Carolina, left to Mary Willett, wife of William Willett, and to the child she has and should hereafter have, 500 acres of land on the West Harpeth River in Williamson County, Tennessee. William Willett was taxed in Williamson County, Tennessee, continuously from 1804 until 1813 (and possibly longer) on 50 acres of land at West Harpeth. In 1812, and 1813, William owned one slave.

On November 7, 1812, Mary Willett relinquished her rights to 500 acres of land on the Harpeth River to her children: William Willett, Hannah Ashman Willett, Lewis Ashman Willett, Absalom Tatum Willett, Joseph Wood Willett, Sally Cliff Willett, and James Tyrrell Willett, for love and affection for my children (Miscellaneous Records, Williamson County, Tennessee, Lynch, 1973, page 57).

On November 28, 1814, William Willett, Mary Willett, and Hannah Willett, agreed to rent to Nicholas Tomlin a farm of 15 acres for 1 year for $20.00 (Miscellaneous Records, Volume 2, page 63).

On January, 1831, in a partition suit in Williamson County, Tennessee, Mary Willett, wife of William Willett, has children Hannah, Absalom T., Lewis A., Joseph W., Sarah, James, William and John. Hannah had married Reuben Littleton. James Armstrong had purchased the shares of Absalom T., and Lewis A. Willett. James Swanson had purchased the share of Joseph W. Willett (County Court of Williamson County, Tennessee, Lawsuits 1821-1872, Books Two through Eight, Lynch, 1975, page 63).

On February 13, 1841, in Williamson County, Tenessee, William Willett, age 67 years, of Henry County, Tennessee, made a deposit concerning Edward Swanson who he had known since 1802. Mary Willett also made a similar disposition declaring she had known Edward Swanson from 1802 until 1827 (Loose Records, Williamson County, Tennessee, Lynch, page 91).

1. Hannah Ashman: b abt 1802; m in Williamson County, Tennessee, on December 21, 1815, Reuben Littleton.

2. Lewis Ashman: b abt 1804.

3. Absalom Tatum: b 1806; married about 1830 (wife's name unknown); lived in Lamar County, Alabama, in 1880. See next U.32.3.

4. Joseph Wood: b abt 1808.

5. Sally Cliff: b abt 1810; m in Williamson County, Tennessee, on April 3, 1831, Steward Warren.

6. James Tyrrell: b abt 1812.

7. William: b abt 1814.

8. John: b abt 1815.

U.32.3
ABSALOM WILLETT of Lamar County, Alabama

Absalom Tatum Willett was born in 1806 (most likely) in Williamson County, Tennessee. He married about 1830 (wife's name unknown). Absalom Willett lived in Alabama from at least 1834. In 1880, he was living in Township 12, Range 14, of Lamar County, Alabama, in 1880. The list of children is mostly incomplete. (1880 Lamar County, Alabama, census).

1. Mary A: b 1834 in Alabama. Married about 1865 Logan. (1880 Lamar County, Alabama, census).

    1. Elizabeth: b 1867 in Alabama. (1880 Lamar County, Alabama, census).

    2. Nancy Lucy: b 1871 in Alabama. (1880 Lamar County, Alabama, census).

2. Patsy E: b 1844 in Alabama. (1880 Lamar County, Alabama, census).

3. Isabella: b 1836 in Alabama. (1880 Lamar County, Alabama, census).

4. George W: b 1859 in Alabama; m about 1885 Martha (b March, 1876, in Illinois). Resided in Marion County, Alabama, in 1900. (1880 Lamar County, Alabama, census). See next U.32.3.4.

U.32.3.4
GEORGE W. WILLETT and MARTHA of Marion County, Alabama

George W. Willett was born in 1859 in Alabama. He married about 1885 Martha (b March, 1876, in Illinois). They resided in Marion County, Alabama, in 1900. (1900 Marion County, Alabama, census).

1. Luther: b January, 1895, in Alabama. (1900 Marion County, Alabama, census).

2. Effie L: b May, 1898, in Alabama. (1900 Marion County, Alabama, census).

U.33
RICHARD WILLETT of Williamson County, Tennessee

Richard Willett was born about 1750. His wife may have been named Charlotte. He resided in Williamson County, Tennessee. Richard Willett was taxed for 1 white poll, in Williamson County, from 1803 until 1809.

Richard probably died in 1810. In 1813, His property was inventoried by the January Session of the Williamson County Court. His estate consisted of livestock, furniture, and other items. When the account of the sale of his property was returned to the April, 1814, session of the Court; Charlotte Willett signed as administrix.

A Charlotte Willett married in Williamson County, Tennessee, on March 11, 1819, Bowling Clarke.

CHAPTER TWENTY-TWO
A Survey of the NORTHWEST TERRITORY
(formed 1787: Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, and part of Minnesota)

V.1
STEPHEN WILLETT and SARAH CHANEY of Liberty Township, Highland County, Ohio

Stephen Willett was born in 1789 in Bedford County, Pennsylvania. He came to Liberty Township in 1814.

He married in Highland County, Ohio, on June 10, 1819, Sarah (Sally) Chaney (b 1794; d June, 1875), of Liberty Township. Removed to Liberty Township, Highland County, Ohio, before 1820.

> "He worked by the month on farms about three years and purchased a farm on the Chillicothe pike, three miles from Hillsborough. This farm was sold and one bought between Rocky fork and Clear creek, on which he lived until 1836, when he purchased a farm of one hundred and thirty acres located on the Belfast pike, adjoining the town, where he has lived ever since" (History of Ross and Highland Counties, Ohio, with Illustrations and Biographical Sketches, 1880, page 358.

Stephen Willett died on October 28, 1882, and is buried in the Hillsboro Cemetery, Highland County, Ohio.

1. Samuel: b abt 1820; m in Highland County, Ohio, January 7, 1841, Elizabeth Chaney; resided Highland County, Ohio, in 1880.

2. James: b abt 1822; m 1st in Highland County, Ohio, March 28, 1844, Eliza Miller (died about 1856); m 2d in Highland County, Ohio, September 13, 1855, Elmira Houp; settled in Iowa before 1880. See next V.1.2.

3. Moses: b abt 1825; m in Highland County, Ohio, May 11, 1848, Catherine Cress; living in Highland County, Ohio, in 1880.

4. Thomas: b abt 1827; living Highland County, Ohio, in 1880.

5. Mary: b January 14, 1829; m October 19, 1848, John A. Long (b 1824; d 1892); living in Ross or Highland County, Ohio, in 1880; d March 22, 1910, in Hillsboro, Highland County, Ohio.

1. Ollie Elizabeth Long: b February 2, 1868; m July 28, 1892, Jesse N. Rhodes (b 1868; d 1949); d November 4, 1936.

6. John: b abt 1832; living in Ross or Highland County, Ohio, in 1880.

7. Nathan: b abt 1835; m in Highland County, Ohio, November 20, 1856, Elizabeth Bishir; living in Highland County, Ohio, in 1880.

1. Jacob: b abt 1858.

8. Gabriel: b abt 1840; m in Highland County, Ohio, June 21, 1859, Mary Ann Bishir; living in Highland County, Ohio, in 1880.

1. Jacob W: b 1866; d February 18, 1871; age 5 years. His father was appointed administrator of his estate on March 6, 1871.

V.1.2
JAMES WILLETT of Highland County, Ohio, and Iowa

James Willett was born about 1822. He married 1st in Highland County, Ohio, March 28, 1844, Eliza Miller (died about 1856).
He married 2d in Highland County, Ohio, September 13, 1855, Elmira Houp.
They moved to Iowa before 1880.

> "January 24, 1857: James Willett appointed Guardian of William Harvey, aged 12 years on January 6, 1857; Sally Ann Willett, aged 8 years on January 6, 1857; John, aged 5 years on December 12, 1856; Martha D., aged 4 years on January 1, 1857; and Nathan Willett, aged 2 years on February 16, 1856; minor children of said James Willett and heirs and legal representatives of William H. Miller, deceased. Surety: Stephen Willett" (Wills, Administrations, Guardianships, and Adoptions of Highland County, Ohio (1805-1880), 1981, page 203).

1. William Harvey: b 1844.

2. Sally Ann: b 1848.

3. John: b 1851.

4. Martha D: b 1852.

5. Nathan: b 1853.

V.2
JOHN WILLETT and CATHERINE MILLER of Highland County, Ohio

John Willett married in Highland County, Ohio, on October 15, 1828, Catherine Miller, the daughter of John Miller. Catherine died before 1852.

1. Rachel: b abt 1830.

2. Amy: b abt 1835.

3. James A: b abt 1837.

V.3

JAMES WILLETT and RACHEL MARGARET THOMPSON

of Orange Township, Carroll County, Ohio, and Putnam County, Missouri

James Willett was born in 1817 in Pennsylvania. He married about 1842 Rachel Margaret (Maggie) Thompson (b 1826 in Pennsylvani; d January 8, 1885; buried in the Thompson Cemtery, Putnam County Missouri), the daughter of Elizabeth (Bateman) Putnam.

There may have been more children born between 1850 and 1860 whose names have not been found.

(1860 Orange Township, Carroll County, Ohio; 1880 Putnam County, Missouri, census).

1. M: b 1844 in Ohio.

2. Lewis: b 1846 in Ohio.

3. Mary: b 1849 in Ohio.

4. John Elmer: b 1861 in Ohio.

5. Clara Viola: b 1866 in Ohio.

6. James Enos: b November 10, 1867, in Ohio; m abt 1890 Jenny Belle; d May 24, 1944, at age 76 years, 6 months, and 14 days; buried in the Shipley Cemetery, Putnam County, Missouri. (Comstock Funeral Records, Putnam County, Missouri).

    1. Claude:

    2. Maude: m Rutherford Magee.

        1. Keith Magee:

    3. Jennie Belle: b August 2, 1882; d December 4, 1949, at Numa, Iowa.

    4. Van: b 1889; d 1958; buried in the Shipley Cemetery, Putnam County, Missouri.

V.4

WILLIAM H. WILLETT and SARAH BELL

of Mechanicsburg, Champaign County, Ohio, and Robertson County, Tennessee

William H. Willett was born about 1843 in Mechanicsburg, Champaign County, Ohio. He was living in Tennessee when the Civil War came. He had war service (it is unknown which side he served on).

William H. Willett married about 1870 Sarah Bell, the daughter of Joel Thomas Bell and Laura V. Bell, of Adams County, Tennessee.

William was a practicing physician.

1. Charles: b April 27, 1886, at Springfield, Robertson County, Ohio; attended Red River High School, in Adams, Tennessee; admitted to the bar in 1911 and had his practice at Springfield and Adams, Tennessee. Mayor of Adams, Tennessee, from 1917 until 1922; a Democrat and a Mason; he was still single in 1922.

V.5

HARRIS THOMAS WILLETT and MARY EUDORA CHEHEY
of Beloit, Rock County, Wisconsin, and Detriot, Michigan

Harris Thomas Willett was born in 1838 in Ohio. He must have moved to Beloit, Rock County, Wisconsin, as a teenager (or as a child). It is possible that he had a sister Anna Elizabeth, and a brother John.

He married on January 30, 1860, Mary Eudora Cheney (b March 4, 1840, Beloit, Rock County, Wisconsin; d November 15, 1913, St. Paul, Howard County, Nebraska; buried Forest Lawn, Omaha, Nebraska), the daughter of Israel and Mary Cheney. Initially, they lived with her parents (1860 census).

Harris Thomas Willett moved to Detriot, Michigan, were he worked for Carrigan Motors. In the spring of 1874, they moved to Omaha, Nebraska, were he built wheels and under carriages for the Union Pacific Railroad.

(One source suggests that Harris Willett may have been born a Jennings and was raised by a Willett family and took their name.

1. John H: b August, 1865; married; d December 14, 1920, in Omaha, Douglas County, Nebraska; buried Forest Lawn.

    1. George:

    2. John:

    3. (child):

2. Mary: b abt 1867; m Perrine; moved to South Dakota.

3. Nellie G: b December 12, 1869, Beloit, Rock County, Wisconsin; m July 2, 1889, in Omaha, Douglas County, Nebraska, Edward E. Westcott, the son of Charles and Mary Westcott; d July 9, 1965, in St. Paul, Howard County, Nebraska; buried in the Elmwood Cemetery.

    1. Carlisle Foote Westcott: b June 6, 1890, Hillside, Iowa; m 1st July 11, 1910, Kittie Johns; m 2d December 23, 1917, Agnes Bonder; m 3d April 14, 1947, Fern Pottasch.

        1. Evelyn Westcott: b abt 1912; m Emmett Wier.

    2. Dora Maude Smith Westcott: b December 3, 1892, Omaha, Douglas County, Nebraska; m June 8, 1913, Clifford Lincoln Smith; d May 7, 1929.

    3. Frank Raymond Westcott: b April 20, 1894, St. Paul, Nebraska; d June 4, 1895; buried in the Elmwood Cemetery, St. Paul, Howard County, Nebraska.

    4. Ruth Ellen Gilliland Westcott: b October 2, 1900; m at York, Nebraska, on October 3, 1918, Floyd Gilliland; d May 2, 1981, at St. Paul, Howard County, Nebraska.

    5. Hazel Maude Westcott: b December 31, 1906; at St. Paul, Howard County, Nebraska; d February 23, 1907; buried Elmwood Cemetery.

4. James R: b August 13, 1873, Detroit, Michigan; m 1st about 1895 Emma (d abt 1896 in childbirth); m 2d 1899 Mary C. Fitzgerald; d July, 1926 (probably in Omaha, Nebraska).

1. Helen Haney: b March 23, 1901.

2. Arthur: b April 29, 1902.

3. Raymond: b July 25, 1903.

4. Mildred: b October 17, 1904.

5. Thelma Glassman: b January 22, 1908.

6. Elmer: b November 11, 1911.

7. Arnold: b March 5, 1914.

V.6
JOHN WILLETT and HARRIET of Berrin County, Michigan

John Willett was born in Maine in 1805. He married in Maine about 1828 Harriet. He was a brickmaker by trade, and came to Michigan about 1847. (1850 Berrin County, Michigan, census).

1. John H: b 1830 in Maine. (1850 Berrin County, Michigan, census).

2. Lucy: b 1837 in Maine. (1850 Berrin County, Michigan, census).

3. Charles: b 1840 in Maine. (1850 Berrin County, Michigan, census).

4. Albert B: b 1843 in Maine. (1850 Berrin County, Michigan, census).

5. Catherine Perritt: b 1845 in Maine; she probably is a Perritt instead of a Willett. (1850 Berrin County, Michigan, census).

V.7
WILLIAM S. WILLET and MARY H. of Clarendon, Calhoun County, Michigan

William S. Willet was born in 1816 in New York. He married about 1838 Mary M. (b 1819 in New Jersey). In 1850, they were residing in Clarendon, Calhoun County, Michigan. (1850 Calhoun County, Michigan, census).

1. Almira: b 1838 in Michigan. (1850 Calhoun County, Michigan, census).

2. Rachel: b 1841 in Michigan. (1850 Calhoun County, Michigan, census).

3. Laura: b 1843 in Michigan. (1850 Calhoun County, Michigan, census).

V.8

RICHARD WILLETT and REBECCA of Cambria, Hillsdale County, Michigan

Richard Willett was born in 1805 in New Jersey. He married about 1830 Rebecca (b 1803 in Massachusetts. They lived in New York from at least 1830 until at least 1840. In 1850, they were residing in Cambria, Hillsdale County, Michigan. (1850 Hillsdale County, Michigan, census).

1. Elizabeth: b 1832 in New York. (1850 Hillsdale County, Michigan, census).

2. Solon: b 1836 in New York. (1850 Hillsdale County, Michigan, census).

3. Hellen: b 1838 in New York. (1850 Hillsdale County, Michigan, census).

V.9

STEPHEN WILLETT and LAURA of Lyons, Ionia County, Michigan

Stephen Willit was born in 1805 in New York. He married about 1835 Laura (b 1817 in Ohio). In 1850, they resided in Lyons, Ionia County, Michigan. (1850 Ionia County, Michigan, census).

1. Stephen: b 1835 in Michigan. (1850 Ionia County, Michigan, census).

2. Allen: b 1840 in Michigan. (1850 Ionia County, Michigan, census).

3. Elan? b 1841 in Michigan. (1850 Ionia County, Michigan, census).

4. Ellen: b 1844 in Michigan. (1850 Ionia County, Michigan, census).

V.10

ICHABOD WILLETT of Macon Township, Lenawee County, Michigan

Ichabod Willett was born in 1804 in New Jersey. He married about 1825 Catherine (b 1805 in Canada). They lived in Canada from at least 1825 until 1830. They came to Michigan about 1830 or 1831 and were living in Macon Township, Lenawee County, Michigan in 1850. (1850 Lenawee County, Michigan, census).

1. Sally A: b 1827 in Canada. (1850 Lenawee County, Michigan, census).

2. Miles: b 1829 in Canada. (1850 Lenawee County, Michigan, census).

3. Isaac: b 1831 in Michigan. (1850 Lenawee County, Michigan, census).

4. Catherine: b 1835 in Michigan. (1850 Lenawee County, Michigan, census).

5. Hannah: b 1837 in Michigan. (1850 Lenawee County, Michigan, census).

6. John: b 1839 in Michigan. (1850 Lenawee County, Michigan, census).

7. Adelbert: b 1841 in Michigan. (1850 Lenawee County, Michigan, census).

8. James: b 1847 in Michigan. (1850 Lenawee County, Michigan, census).

V.11

CORNELIUS WILLETT and CATHERINE of Medina, Lenawee County, Michigan

Cornelius Willett was born in 1798 in New Jersey. He married about 1825 Clarissa (b 1799 in New Jersey). They resided for a while in New York (they were there in 1829). In 1850, they were residing in Medina, Lenawee County, Michigan. (1850 Lenawee County, Michigan, census).

1. Sally: b 1829 in New York. (1850 Lenawee County, Michigan, census).

2. Hershel: b 1836 in Michigan. (1850 Lenawee County, Michigan, census).

3. Melissa: b 1841 in Michigan. (1850 Lenawee County, Michigan, census).

V.12

JOSEPH C. WILLETT and CHRISTAIN of Seneca Township, Lenawee County, Michigan

Joseph C. Willett was born in 1785 in New Jersey. He married about 1815 Christian (b 1795 in New Jersey). They lived in New York at least during the years 1820 to about 1830. In 1850, they were residing in Seneca Township, Lenawee County, Michigan. (1850 Lenawee County, Michigan, census).

1. Nathan B: b 1822 in New York. (1850 Lenawee County, Michigan, census).

2. Nancy B: b 1826 in New York. (1850 Lenawee County, Michigan, census).

3. Jesse R: b 1831 in New York. (1850 Lenawee County, Michigan, census).

4. Elizabeth H: b 1843 in Michigan. (1850 Lenawee County, Michigan, census).

V.13

JOHN P. WILLET and MARY of Fairfield, Lenawee County, Michigan

John P. Willet was born in 1803 in New Jersey. He married about 1830 Mary (b 1803 in New York). They resided in New York, and came to Michigan after 1838, or later. In 1850, they were living in Fairfield County, Michigan. (1850 Lenawee County, Michigan, census).

1. Joseph W: b 1831 in New York. (1850 Lenawee County, Michigan, census).

2. Sarah M: b 1833 in New York. (1850 Lenawee County, Michigan, census).

3. Thomas W: b 1837 in New York. (1850 Lenawee County, Michigan, census).

V.14

BARZILA WILLETT and AMANDA of Fairfield, Lenawee County, Michigan

Barzila Willett was born in 1810 in New York. He married about 1830 Amanda (b 1810 in New York). They resided in New York. After 1838, they came to Michigan. (1850 Lenawee County, Michigan, census).

1. Marcy: b 1832 in New York. (1850 Lenawee County, Michigan, census).

2. Emeline: b 1834 in New York. (1850 Lenawee County, Michigan, census).

V.15

JOHN WILLETT and CAROLINE of Fairfield, Lenawee County, Michigan

John Willett was born in 1822 in New York. He married about 1848 Caroline (b 1829 in New York). In 1850, they were living in Fairfield, Lenawee County, Michigan. (1850 Lenawee County, Michigan, census).

V.16

JOHN WILLETT and HARRIET of Osceola, Livingston County, Michigan

John Willett was born in 1818 in New York. He married about 1838 Harriet (b 1818 in Vermont). In 1850, the were living in Osceola, Livingston County, Michigan. (1850 Livingston County, Michigan, census).

1. Mary: b 1839 in Michigan. (1850 Livingston County, Michigan, census).

2. Nancy: b 1842 in Michigan. (1850 Livingston County, Michigan, census).

3. Christiana: b 1844 in Michigan. (1850 Livingston County, Michigan, census).

4. Eliza: b 1846 in Michigan. (1850 Livingston County, Michigan, census).

5. Sarah: b 1848 in Michigan. (1850 Livingston County, Michigan, census).

V.17

SAMUEL WILLETT and MARGARET of Hampton, Saginaw County, Michigan

Samuel Willett was born in 1816 in Michigan. He married about 1844 Margaret (b 1829 in Michigan). In 1850, they were living in Hampton, Saginaw County, Michigan. (1850 Saginaw County, Michigan, census).

1. Joseph: b 1845 in Michigan. (1850 Saginaw County, Michigan, census).

2. Samuel: b 1847 in Michigan. (1850 Saginaw County, Michigan, census).

3. (son): b summer, 1850. (1850 Saginaw County, Michigan, census).

V.18

THOMAS WILLETT and FANNY of Erin Township, Macomb County, Michigan

Thomas Willett was born in 1803 in Michigan. He married about 1828 Fanny (b 1808 in Michigan). In 1850, they were living in Erin Township, Macomb County, Michigan. (1850 Macomb County, Michigan, census).

1. Thomas A: b 1831 in Michigan; a sailor. (1850 Macomb County, Michigan, census).

2. William: b 1836 in Michigan. (1850 Macomb County, Michigan, census).

3. Levi: b 1842 in Michigan. (1850 Macomb County, Michigan, census).

4. John: b 1844 in Michigan. (1850 Macomb County, Michigan, census).

5. Matilda: b 1845 in Michigan. (1850 Macomb County, Michigan, census).

6. Eveline: b 1846 in Michigan. (1850 Macomb County, Michigan, census).

7. Olave: b 1847 in Michigan. (1850 Macomb County, Michigan, census).

8. Edward: b 1849 in Michigan. (1850 Macomb County, Michigan, census).

V.19

RHODES WILLETT of Shelby, Oceana County, Michigan

Rhodes Willett was born in Monroe County, New York, on April 12, 1844. He settled in Shelby, Oceana County, Michigan, on Section 20, in 1867. He married 1st on February 23, 1865, Olive Esten (b August, 1845, Monroe County, New York; d March 25, 1874).

He married 2d on June 4, 1875, Minnie Smith (b June 8, 1856, in Monroe County, New York). (History of Manistee, Mason, and Oceana Counties, Michigan, 1882, page 128).

1. Ida Viola: b abt 1867.

2. Olive: b abt 1870.

V.20

CHARLES WILLET of Crystal, Oceana County, Michigan

Charles Willet was born on July 11, 1826, in Seneca County, New York. He moved to Fulton County, Ohio, in 1839. He married 1st on October 15, 1862, Mary Ann Aldrich (d 1855). He visited California in 1853, remained about 2 years.

He married 2d on August 17, 1856, Lucy J. Aldrich (b July 2, 1838, in Fulton County, Ohio; d February 18, 1880). They settled in Crystal, Michigan, in 1865, on Section 23. He owned and operated a mill till 1880, when it was accidentlaly destroyed. (History of Manistee, Mason, and Oceana Counties, Michigan, 1882, page 132).

1. Edgar C: b abt 1858.

2. Ella R: b abt 1860.

V.21
WARREN B. WILLET of Crystal, Oceana County, Michigan

Warren B. Willet was born in Seneca County, New York, on August 20, 1836. He moved to Fulton County, Ohio, in 1839. He married 1st on November 17, 1859, Aurelia Mattison (d December 12, 1865); m 2d May 11, 1870, Jennie E. Jipson (b 1843 in Kent County, Michigan).

He early learned the trade of machinist, which he followed until 1874, when he engaged in farming on Section 22, Crystal Township, Ocenana County, Michigan. (History of Manistee, Mason, and Oceana Counties, Michigan, 1882, page 128).

V.22
MICAJAH WILLETT and PHEBE M. of Augusta Township, Washtenaw County, Michigan

Micajah Willett was born in 1816 in New York. He married about 1835 Phebe M. (b 1809 in New York). In 1850, they were living in Augusta Township, Washtenaw County, Michigan. (1850 Washtenaw County, Michigan, census).

1. Sarah B: b 1844 in Michigan. (1850 Washtenaw County, Michigan, census).

V.23
RICHARD WILLETT and DELIVERANCE of Ypsilanti, Washentaw County, Michigan

Richard Willett was born in 1778 in New York. He married about 1800 Deliverance. In 1850, they were living in Ypsilanti Township, Washentaw County, Michigan. Mary McCumber (age 15) and Sherman Enos age 24) were living with them. (1850 Washtenaw County, Michigan, census).

V.24
LUTHER WILLIT and MILIA of Livonia, Wayne County, Michigan

Luther Willit was born in 1823 in New York. He married about 1848 Milia (b 1823 in New York). In 1850, they were living in Detriot, Wayne County, Michigan. (1850 Wayne County, Michigan, census).

V.25
MORDECAI WILLITT of Livonia, Wayne County, Michigan

Mordecai Willitt was born in 1815 in New York. In 1850, he was living in Livonia Township, Wayne County, Michigan. A Hannah Willitt, age 73 (b 1777) was living with him; as was John Ogden (age 28) and Mary Ogden (age 28). (1850 Wayne County, Michigan, census).

V.26

JOSEPH WILLITT and BETSEY of Livonia, Wayne County, Michigan

Joseph Willitt was born in 1800 in New Jersey. He married about 1825 Betsey (b 1807 in New York). They were living in New York in 1826, and were in Michigan by 1835. In 1850, they were living in Livonia, Wayne County, Michigan.(1850 Wayne County, Michigan, census).

1. George: b 1826 in New York; m about 1848 Sarah (b 1827 in New York). (1850 Wayne County, Michigan, census).

2. Phebe: b 1835 in Michigan. (1850 Wayne County, Michigan, census).

3. Barton: b 1838 in Michigan. (1850 Wayne County, Michigan, census).

V.27

HERBERT WILLET and LOUISA of Livonia Township, Wayne County, Michigan

Herbert Willet was born in 1824 in New York. He married about 1848 Louisa (b 1832 in Pennsylvania). In 1850, they were living in Livonia, Wayne County, Michigan. (1850 Wayne County, Michigan, census).

1. Alice: b summer, 1850 in Michigan. (1850 Wayne County, Michigan, census).

V.28

MICHAEL M. WILLET and ANNA MARIE HALLER
of Luxembourg, and Detriot, Wayne County, Michigan

Michael M. Willet was born in 1829 in Luxembourg. He must have lived there until his marriage about 1850 to Anna Marie Haller (b 1829 at Medernach, Luxembourg; d September 13, 1881, in Detriot, Michigan). They moved to Canada at least by 1855, and then on to Detriot, Wayne County, Michigan, about 1857.

They were Catholic. They may have used the French version of Willett, "Ouelette," as their surname. It is thought that some of their children did use "Ouelette" as a surname.

1. Jospehine: b 1856 in Canada; d March, 1931, in Detroit, Michigan.

2. Mary: b 1858 in Michigan.

3. Louisa: b 1868; d June, 1870, in Detroit, Michigan.

V.29

NICHALOS WILLET and FLORENCE of Detriot, Wayne County, Michigan

Nicholas Willet was born in 1863. He married about 1870 Florence (b 1862; d September 17, 1936, Detroit, Michigan).

They were Catholic. He died on July 31, 1945, at Detroit, Michigan.

V.30

DENNIS J. WILLETTE and MARGARET MCKENNA of Detriot, Wayne County, Michigan

Dennis J. Willette was born about 1840. He married about 1860 Margaret McKenna. They resided in Detriot, Michigan, and were Roman Catholic. (The Book of Detroiters, 1914, page 531).

1. Frank J: b August 2, 1864, at Detroit; m at Detriot in 1893 Eva M. Martz. He died at Detroit, Michigan, on March 25, 1935; they were Catholic. See next V.30.1.

V.30.1

FRANK JOSEPH WILLETTE and EVA M. MARTZ of Detriot, Michigan

Frank J. Willette was born on August 2, 1864, at Detroit. He married at Detriot in 1893 Eva M. Martz. He died at Detroit, Michigan, on March 25, 1935. They were Catholic. (The Book of Detroiters, 1914, page 531).

1. Frank J., Jr: b 1895; d January 13, 1941, at Detroit, Michigan.

2. George M:

3. Marion:

V.31

DENNIS J. WILLETT of Detroit, Wayne County, Michigan

Dennis J. Willett(e) was born on May 21, 1832. He married about 1855 Margaret (b 1832; d August 22, 1908, at Detroit, Michigan).
They were Catholic. He died on April 7, 1886, at Detroit, Michigan.

1. Lena T: b 1886.

2. Theodore: b September, 1871?; d October 1, 1871?

V.32

FRANK C. WILLETT and MAMIE E. of Detroit, Wayne County, Michigan

Frank C. Willett was born in 1883. He married about 1905 Mamie E. (Doherty? b 1887; d November 27, 1971, in Detroit, Michigan).
They were Catholic. He died on November 3, 1942, in Detroit, Michigan.

V.33

ISAAC WILLETT and SUSAN PERSHING of Ohio and Henry County, Illinois

Isaac Willett was born in Ohio about about 1815. He married Susan Pershing (b in Pennsylvania). They lived in Ohio, and in 1851 located in Henry County, Illinois. They both had died by 1909 (Memoirs of Lenawee County, Michigan, 1909, page 832).

1. John L: b February 12, 1844, in Ohio; m about 1870 Jennie Reynolds (b March 25, 1842, in Ohio). They resided in Illinois until 1873, when they returned to Ohio for a year, and then moved to Dover Township, Lenawee County, Michigan, where they purchased 80 acres in Section 35 (Memoirs of Lenawee County, Michigan, 1909, page 832). See next V.33.1.

V.33.1
JOHN L. WILLETT and JENNIE REYNOLDS of Lenawee County, Michigan

John L Willett was born on February 12, 1844, in Ohio. He married about 1870 Jennie Reynolds (b March 25, 1842, in Ohio). They resided in Illinois until 1873, when they returned to Ohio for a year, and then moved to Dover Township, Lenawee County, Michigan, where they purchased 80 acres in Section 35 (Memoirs of Lenawee County, Michigan, 1909, page 832).

1. Frank J: b November 30,1871, in Henry County, Illinois; m February 2, 1899, Florence Parker. See next V.33.1.1.

2. Wendell D: b October 22, 1877; resided in Adrian.

3. Lloyd W: b June 13, 1880; resided with his parents in Lenawee County, Michigan in 1909.

V.33.1.1
FRANK J. WILLETT and FLORENCE PARKER of Adrian, Lenawee County, Michigan

Frank J. Willett was born on November 30, 1871, in Henry County, Illinois. He married on February 2, 1899, Florence Parker, the daughter of James and Julia (Carpenter) Parker.

> "Frank J. Willett received his earliest education in the district schools of Doveer township, later attended the normal department of Adrian College, in which school he graduated with the class of 1891. He then taught school for 2 years. Not finding the work of teaching congenial, he returned home and worked with his father for 6 or 7 years, in fact remained at home until the time of his marriage" (Memoirs of Lenawee County, Michigan, 1909, pages 832-833).

The Willetts are members of the Baptist Church and also members of the local Grange.

V.34
DUANE WILLITT of Vassar, Tuscola County, Michigan

Duane Willitt was born at Theresa, Jefferson County, New York, on June 5, 1844. He enlisted at Tuscola, Tuscola County, Michigan, on March 20, 1863, as a private in Company M, 7th Michigan Cavalry. He mustered out at Washington, D. C., on November 16,

1865, honorably discharged (Personal and Historical Sketches and Facial History of and by Members of the Seventh Regiment, Michigan Volunteer Cavalry 1862-1865, page 294).

V.35

LYMAN C. WILLETT and RHODA J. HILLINGHAM of Erie County, New York

Lyman C. Willett was a resident of Erie County, New York, in 1848. He married Rhoda J. Hillingham prior to 1847.

1. Melvin A: b September 4, 1848; m December 31, 1869, Eva Peak; resided in Grand Rapids and Cannon Township, Kent County, Michigan. (The City of Grand Rapids and Kent County, Michigan, 1900, page 1084).

    1. Nettie: b abt 1870; m D. C. Stapleton of Grand Rapids.

    2. Clare: b abt 1872; a farmer of Cannon Township.

    3. (child): b abt 1875; d before 1900.

V.36

RICHARD WILLETT and MARTHA SKILTON of England and Mecosta County, Michigan

Richard Willett was born about 1760 in England. He married in England Martha Skilton. In 1833, they came to Canada, where Mrs. Martha Willett died.

Richard Willett then brought the children to Michigan.

1. William: b March 28, 1810, in England; m in England on February 3, 1830, Charlotte Rose; left England with his parents in 1833, and settled for a while in Canada; came with his father to Michigan. See next V.36.1.

V.36.1

WILLIAM WILLETT and CHARLOTTE ROSE of England and Mecosta County, Michigan

William Willett was born on March 28, 1810, in England:. He married in England on February 3, 1830, Charlotte Rose (b September 21, 1812, in England), the daughter of Benjamin and Charlotte (Mann) Rose.

They left England with his parents in 1833, and settled for a while in Canada. After his mother's death; in 1866, they came with his father to Mecosta County, Michigan.

William purchased a 120 acre tract on Section 5, Hinton Township, Mecosta County, Michigan.

> "William Willett spent the first 23 years of his life in his native land, and until 14 years of age was sent to school. He worked four years with his father, who was a carpenter, and then set out for his single-handed life struggle. In 1833, he came to Canada and entered upon a life of labor, working at carpentry and millwrighting, and was thus engaged for 33 years, coming to Michigan in 1866. He at once

purchased 120 acres of land, on which he now resides (1883) and has 40 acres under a good state of cultivation" (Portrait and Biographical Album, Mecosta County, Michigan, 1883, page 344).

1. Lydia M: b January 17, 1832; m in Canada on April 10, 1858, Bartley Davis; they came to Mecosta County, Michigan, in the 1860s (Portrait and Biographical Album, Mecosta County, Michigan, 1883, page 376).

1. Newton E. Davis: b April 12, 1859.

2. Ezra W. Davis: b October 7, 1860; d February 8, 1881.

3. child: d in infancy.

4. child: d in infancy.

5. Ella A Davis: b November 22, 1861.

6. Charlotte M. Davis: b April 2, 1865.

V.37

GEORGE WILLETT and NANCY SMITH of England and Mecosta County, Michigan

George Willett was born in England about 1820. When George was 8, he came to Canada. He married about 1845 Nancy Smith of Canada. In 1863, they removed to Mecosta, Michigan (Portrait and Biographical Album, Mecosta County, Michigan, 1883, page 376).

1. Richard L: b March 30, 1853, in Canada; came with his parents in 1863 to Altona, Mecosta County, Michigan; m December 21, 1878, at ALtona, Grace A. Brander (b July 16, 1855, in Canada), the daughter of William and Mary A. (Seaton) Brander (Portrait and Biographical Album, Mecosta County, Michigan, 1883, page 376).

1. Leroy: b April 11, 1881.

2. Mabel: b March 27, 1883.

3. Elmer R: b December 28, 1879; d January 10, 1880.

2. Angeline: m at Wheatland Township, Michigan, on February 8, 1881, Joseph Wendling; they are Roman Catholic (Portrait and Biographical Album, Mecosta County, Michigan, 1883, page 376).

1. Charles Wendling: b April, 1882; d after a few days.

V.38

STEPHEN C. WILLETT and SARAH of Beloit, Rock County, Wisconsin

Stephen C. Willett was born in 1810 in Massachusetts. Stephen became a clergyman. He married about 1832 Sarah (b 1811 in Massachusetts). Her parents were born in England. In 1835, they still living in Massachusetts. By 1838, they were in Maine; and between 1840 and 1845 they were living in New York state.

They settled in Wisconsin in 1845 or 1846. (1850, 1860, 1870, 1880 Rock County, Wisconsin, census).

1. James: b 1834 in Massachusetts. (1850, 1860 Rock County, Wisconsin, census).

2. John H: b 1837 in Maine. (1850, 1860 Rock County, Wisconsin, census).

3. Stephen: b 1840 in New York. (1850, 1860 Rock County, Wisconsin, census).

4. Frank F: b 1844 in New York. (1850, 1860 Rock County, Wisconsin, census).

5. Daniel: b 1846 in Wisconsin; in 1870 his mother, Sarah, age 59, and his sister, Sarah, age 21, were living with him. (1850, 1860, 1870 Rock County, Wisconsin, census).

6. Sarah A: b late in 1849 in Wisconsin. (1850, 1860, 1870, 1880 Rock County, Wisconsin, census).

7. Charles: b 1856 in Wisconsin; in 1880, his mother, Sarah A., age 64, and his sister, Sarah A., age 28, were living with him. (1880, 1870, 1880 Rock County, Wisconsin, census).

V.39

O. D. WILLETT amd MARY of Beloit, Rock County, Wisconsin

O. D. Willett was born in 1828 in Maine. He married about 1855 Mary (b 1828 in Massachusetts). In 1860, they were residents of Beloit, Rock County, Wisconsin.

They were not found in the 1880 census. (1870 Beloit, Rock County, Wisconsin, census).

V.40

CHARLES WILLETT and PATIENCE of Beloit, Rock County, Wisconsin

Charles Willett was born in 1810 in Maine. He married about 1835 Patience (b 1817 in Maine). In 1870, they were living in Beloit, Rock County, Wisconsin. They were not found in the 1880 census. (1870 Beloit, Rock County, Wisconsin, census).

1. Aliva: b 1849 in Wisconsin. (1870 Rock County, Wisconsin, census).

2. Warren: b 1851 in Wisconsin. (1870 Rock County, Wisconsin, census).

3. Harriet: b 1854 in Wisconsin. (1870 Rock County, Wisconsin, census).

4. Viola: b 1856 in Wisconsin. (1870 Rock County, Wisconsin, census).

CHAPTER TWENTY-THREE
WEST OF THE MISSISSIPPI: TEXAS, INDIAN TERRITORY, ARKANSAS, MONTANA
NEW MEXICO, CALIFORNIA

W.1
GEORGE ANSON WILLETT and SADIE A. GRIFFIN of Montana

George Anson Willett was born on April 10, 1868, in either Montana or Missouri. He married about 1895 Sadie A. Griffin (b May 2, 1873; d January 23, 1917).
George died in the 1940s.

1. Juliamae: b November 22, 1896, in Helena, Montana; m about 1917 Joseph Raymond Wine.

    1. Joseph Raymond Wine: b March 27, 1918; m Mimi Acuna.

    2. Robert Lee Wine: b November 25, 1923; m Shirley Johnson.

2. Gerald Anson: b November 2, 1905, in Helena, Montana; m about 1927 Laura Sherman (b December 18, 1903). See next W.1.2.

W.1.2
GERALD ANSON WILLETT and LAURA SHERMAN of Helena, Montana

Gerald Anson Willett (II) was born on November 2, 1905, in Helena, Montana. He married about 1927 Laura Sherman (b December 18, 1903).

1. Gerald Anson (III): b June 24, 1930, in Helena, Montana; m Merlyn Mauer.

    1. Margery Elizabeth: b October 4, 1955, in Helena, Montana.

    2. Gary Anson: b August 16, 1958; of Bozeman, Montana.

2. Thomas Sherman: b December 31, 1931; resides in Bellingham, Washington.; m Marie Politi.

    1. Mary Ann: b February 18, 1958.

    2. Thomas Sherman, Jr: b August 11, 1959.

    3. Phillip R: b March 10, 1962.

    4. Antoinette Marie: b January 14, 1964.

    5. Carolyn: b August 27, 1967.

3. Laura Lee: b June 3, 1941; m James R. Richeson (b February 16, 1940).

    1. Curtis James Richeson: b March 17, 1962.

    2. Wendy Lee Richeson: b August 29, 1964.

3. Stacy Ann Richeson: b December 15, 1968.

W.2
D. C. WILLETT and FLORENCE FUCHS of Missouri and California

D. C. Willett was living in Overland, Missouri, in 1919. He married Florence Fuchs. They resided on 708 35th Street, Sacramento, California.

1. Kenneth Martin: b April 19, 1919, in Overland, Missouri; d September 27, 1942. See next W.2.1.

W.2.1
KENNETH MARTIN WILLETT of Overland, Missouri

Kenneth Martin Willett was born in Overland, Missouri, on April 19, 1919.

"He was attached to the Naval Reserve Midshipmen's School in the USS Illinois until commissioned, and was then assigned duty in the USS California, reporting December 1, 1940. On November 2d, 1941, he was detached and transferred and was further assigned to the Armed Guard Center, Treasure Island, San Francisco, California, in January, 1942. He was then assigned duty as Commanding Officer of the Naval Armed Guard crew in the SS Stephen Hopkins, merchant vessel.

On September 27, 1942, shortly before noon, that vessel was attacked by two enemy raiders and went down in a blaze, only fifteen men surviving after 31 days at sea in an open lifeboat. He was awarded the Navy Cross posthumously and cited as follows:

For extraordinary heroism and conspicious courage as Commanding Officer of the Untied States Navy Armed Guard aboard the USS Stephen Hopkins during action with unidentified enemy forces while enroute from Capetown to Paramaribo, September 27, 1942. In an attack launched by the enemy, and with no friendly ship in sight, (he) propmptly manned his station at the 4-inch gun as the first shell struck, and opened fire on the most heavily armed of the two enemy raiders. Although seriously wounded in the stomach almost immediately, he kept up a sustained and rapid fire at close range, hitting his target along the water line with most of the 35 shells fired. Because of his great personal valor and gallant spirit of self-sacrifice, he was able to maintain a determined and heroic defense of his ship until forced by a magazine explosion to cease his fire. Still refusing to give up, (he) obviously weakened and suffering, went down on deck and was last seen helping to cast loose the life rafts in a desperate effort to save the lives of others. The Stephen Hopkins was shelled repeated from stem to stern, but before she plunged stern first, wrecked and blazing into the sea, her guns had inflicted serious damage on both enemy raiders and caused the probable destruction of one of them."

W.3
JAMES M. WILLETT and LOUISA BRAKE of Illinois and Texas

James (Jim) M. Willett was born in 1843 in Tennessee. He married at Benton, Franklin County, Illinois, on March 23, 1865, Louisa Brake (b 1845 in Illinois). In 1880, they were living in Snowflake, Franklin County, Illinois.
J. M. Willett died in 1889.

1. James W: b abt 1866.

2. Alonzo: b abt 1868.

3. Mary E: b abt 1870.

4. Elves S: b abt 1872.

5. Charles: b abt 1875.

6. Lorena May: b abt 1877.

7. John: b abt 1880.

8. Jasper W: b November 9, 1883, in Bristol, Texas; m August 12, 1906, Flora Mae Gilliland (b December 22, 1889, in Bristol, Texas; d February 16, 1954, at Dallas, Texas); d October 26, 1946, in Mabank, Texas.

1. Hollis Jasper: b May 13, 1917, in Henderson County, Texas; m June 29, 1940, Theresa Sue Anna Smith (b August 3, 1922, in Van Zandt County, Texas).

1. Charles Hollis: b April 11, 1943, in Dallas, Texas; resides at 5201 Avenue South, Galveston, Texas, 77550.

W.4
NATHAN WILLETT and JESSIE of Waco, McLennon County, Texas

Nathan Willett was born in 1823 in Tennessee. He married about 1859 Jessie (b 1842). IN 1870, they were living in Waco, Texas.
(1870 McLennon County, Texas, census).

1. Mollie: b 1862 in Texas.

2. Flose: b 1869 in Texas.

W.5
ROBERT M. WILLETT of Anderson County, Texas

Robert M. Willett was born in 1824 in Tennessee. He was living in Anderson County, Texas, in 1846 (Texas Poll Lists for 1846, Mullins, 1982, page 43). In 1850, he was a gin maker working for John Billups. (1850 Anderson County, Texas, census).

W.6
WESLEY WILLETT of Cooke County, Texas

Wesley Willett was born about 1840? He was married and had two daughters. They were living in Cooke County, Texas, in 1863.

> "The Indians crossed Red River into Texas about 2 o'clock in the afternoon of the 22d of December, 1863, a few miles below Red River Station, and at once commenced their fiendish work of murdering and burning. They first came upon the house of Mr. Anderson. They killed his wife, and left her feet so near the fire in the yard as to roast her feet. At the residence of Wesley Willet, they killed Mr. Willet and one daughter, while his wife and another daughter made their escape. They burned and plundered Mr. Willet's house" (Indian War and Pioneers of Texas, page 115).

W.7
G. W. WILLETT of Texas, Kansas, and the Indian Territory

G. W. Willett was born in May, 1852, in New York. He married about 1882, probably in Indiana, R. A. (b May 1860, in Indiana). They lived in Kansas in the 1880s and moved to Township 23 North, Range 13 East, of the Indian Territory (Oklahoma) about 1894. (1900 Indian Territory census).

1. Carrie: b December, 1883, in Texas. (1900 Indian Territory census).
2. Thomas: b September, 1886, in Kansas. (1900 Indian Territory census).
3. Lewis: b October, 1887, in Kansas. (1900 Indian Territory census).
4. George: b March, 1890, in Kansas. (1900 Indian Territory census).
5. Leslie (Leah): b April, 1891, in Kansas. (1900 Indian Territory census).
6. Fred: b November, 1893, in Kansas. (1900 Indian Territory census).
7. Jennie: b December, 1895, in Indian Territory. (1900 Indian Territory census).

W.8
WILLIAM H. WILLETT of the Indian Territory

William H. Willett was born in December, 1859, in Illinois. He married Mary A. (b December, 1862, in Indiana). In 1900, they were living in the Indian Territory. (1900 Indian Territory census).

1. Viny V (female): b October, 1898, in the Indian Territory. (1900 Indian Territory census).

W.9
JOHN WILLETT and ALICE N. WILSON of Tulsa, Indian Territory

John Willett was born on May 30, 1855, at Atlanta, Logan County, Illinios. He came to Kansas in 1871 and married near Fredonia, Kansas, on February 20, 1876, Alice N. Wilson. His family came to Kansas, and settled around Fall River.

He became a minister of the gospel and preached for more then thirty years at Mannford, Keystone, and Sinnett, Indian Territory (now Oklahoma). When "The Strip" was opened in 1893, he settled at Keystone, where he was ordained in the Church of Christ, May 6, 1900. He had his first minstry in nearby Mannford.

He died on April 21, 1933, and is buried at a little cemetery at Mannford, near Sinnett, where he had preached for his last 12 years.

1. Warren D: b abt 1873; of Tulsa; d abt 1963.

2. Olsa: b 1889; of Tulsa; m Green; d June, 1974.

3. Thelma: b abt 1890; of Tulsa.

4. Everett: b abt 1892; of Tulsa; removed to California; d before 1973; buried at Sawgus in military part of the cemetery.

W.10
JOHN R. WILLETT of Lockwood, Dade County, Missouri

John R. Willett was born about 1860. He married about 1880 Leta Whitehead, the daughter of M. B. Whitehead. His will is dated July 27, 1948.

1. Clyde Harrison: b 1888.

2. Charles Ray: b 1890.

3. L. E: b 1900; d October 8, 1951, at Okemah, Okfuskee County, Oklahoma.

W.11
JOHN WILLITS of New Jersey, New York, and Michigan

John Willits, Junior, was born in New Jersey in 1799. He married about 1820 Caroline Fisher (b Connecticutt; d about 1843). He is reputed to have been the John Willits who lived in Orleans County, New York, in 1830. On December 15, 1835, he purchased Lot No. Thirteen in Orleans County, New York, for $295.00. On April 26, 1836, he and his wife, Caroline, sold for $1,500.00 Lot No. Thirteen, in the Town of Ridgway, Orleans County, New York. Evidently, about the same time (1836), he and his family, and the Nathaniel Fisher family, removed to Michigan, where they settled at Rome, Lenawee County, Michigan. John Willits married 2d about 1845 Aurilla Through.

1. Ruth: b 1821.

2. Jonathan: b August 23, 1823, in New York; m 1st December 19, 1844, in Rome, Lenawee County, Michigan, Deborah Amelia Kempton (b September 8, 1826, in Maine; d October 26, 1866, in Iowa; buried in College Springs, Iowa), the daughter of Zachius Kempton; m 2d Ester A. Kempton. See next W.11.2.

3. William F: b 1824, New York; m 1849 Eliza.

4. Elizabeth: b 1831, New York; m 1849 Leneca Brown.

5. Eliza L: b 1838, Michigan.

6. Henry L: b 1842, Michigan.

W.11.2

JONATHAN WILLITS of Lenawee County, Michigan, and Page County, Iowa

Jonathan Willits was born on August 23, 1823, in New York. He married 1st on December 19, 1844, in Rome, Lenawee County, Michigan, Deborah Amelia Kempton (b September 8, 1826, in Maine; d October 26, 1866, in Iowa; buried in College Springs, Iowa), the daughter of Zachius Kempton. About 1854, they and the Kempton's moved from Lenawee County, Michigan, to Page County, Iowa.

He married 2d in Iowa on March 20, 1870, Ester Adelia Kempton (b October 28, 1841, Michigan; d November 20, 1919, Clarinda, Iowa), the daughter of Joseph Kempton and Eliza Sabrena Foote. He died on October 20, 1919, Clarinda, Iowa).

(1850 Township of Pittsford, Hillsdale County, Michigan).

1. Caroline Fisher: b August 19, 1846, Hillsdale County, Michigan; m January 30, 1867, J. A. James. (1850 Hillsdale County, Michigan).

2. William Fisher: b January 24, 1848, Hillsdale County, Michigan; m 1874 Clara Adaline Short; d April 26, 1913. (1850 Hillsdale County, Michigan).

3. Henry Warren: b March 17, 1850, Hillsdale County, Michigan.

4. Charles: b March 2, 1853, Page County, Iowa; d April, 1853.

5. Charles Frederick: b April 25, 1854, Page County, Iowa; m 1876 Emma.

6. Jonathan A: b August 9, 1856, Page County, Iowa; m December 2, 1886, Eva Storrs (b 1865).

7. Santford: b 1857 Page County, Iowa; d 1861.

8. Harriet Isabella: b March 6, 1859, Page County, Iowa; m W. C. Anderson.

9. Deborah Elizabeth: b June 7, 1864, Page County, Iowa; m August 29, 1888, Dixon E. Milford; d 1944.

10. Seth Thomas: b August 24, 1866, Page County, Iowa; d 1866.

11. Lovie: b February 29, 1872, Page County, Iowa; d February 29, 1872.

12. Burtie: b May 5, 1873, Page County, Iowa; d 1873.

13. Eda May: b February 22, 1876, Braddyville, Page County, Iowa; m in Page County, Iowa, August 19, 1907, W. H. Fulmer; d August 21, 1951, Amazonia, Missouri; buried in the Amazonia Cemetery.

1. James Guy Fulmer: b September 6, 1908, Amazonia, Missouri; m Amazonia, Missouri, April 21, 1935, Leta Florence Harrington (b October 3, 1915, Amazonia, Missouri); d August 25, 1981.

1. John William Fulmer: b August 4, 1941, Amazonia, Missouri; m at St. Louis, Missouri, December 12, 1964, Dorothy Ann Sauerwein (b July 10, 1940, Belleville, Illinois).

14. Guy Rolston: b January 21, 1879, Page County, Iowa; m Lizzie Hurst; d 1942.

W.12
JOHN R. WILLETT of Albuquerque, New Mexico

John R. Willett lived in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

1. (daughter): m Fred Williams of Bakerfield, California.

2. Howard Hugh: b 1919; resided in Alburqueque, New Mexico; became a Major in the United States Army; m Ona Caroline Holden; served in the Pacific Theater in World War II; resided in Montgomery, Alabama; resided at 159 High Point Boulevard, Mobile, Alabama; d in Mobile on December 28, 1956, of a heart attack.

1. Diona Dee (Dee Dee): b 1943.

2. Judith Ann: b 1945.

3. John: b 1947.

4. Richard: b 1950.

W.13
ERWIN WILLETT and MARY of Bois d' Arc Township, Hempstead County, Arkansas

Erwin Willett was born in 1877 in Tennessee. He married about 1905 Mary (b 1882). In 1910 he was living in Bois d' Arc Township, Hempstead County, Arkansas.
(1910 Hempstead County, Arkansas, census).

1. John: b 1905 in Arkansas.

2. Henry: b 1907 in Arkansas.

3. Joseph: b 1909 in Arkansas.

W.14

NIEL C. WILLETT and BELLE of Bois d' Arc Township, Hempstead County, Arkansas

Niel C. Willett (sic) was born in 1871 in Tennessee. His parents were born in North Carolina. He married about 1900 Belle (b 1867 in Arkansas). In 1910, they were living in Bois d' Arc Township, Hempstead County, Arkansas.

They had 3 children before 1910.

(1910 Hempstead County, Arkansas).

W.15

THOMAS WILLETT of Madison County, Arkansas

Thomas Willett was born in 1829 in Tennessee. He married about 1849 Margaret (b 1830 in Tennessee). In 1850, they were living in Madison County, Arkansas. (1850 Madison County, Arkansas, census).

W.16

JOHN D. WILLETT of Little Rock, Pulaski County, Arkansas

John D. Willett was born in 1819 in Alabama. He married about 1842, possibly in Arkansas, Lavice (b 1822 in Alabama). In 1850, he was a blacksmith living in Little Rock, Pulaski County, Arkansas. Daniel Barret, age 10, and Edward P. Overton, age 19, and an apprentice, were living in their household.

(1850 Pulaski County, Arkansas, census).

1. Simeon P: b 1845 in Arkansas.

2. Sydney A: b 1847 in Arkansas.

W.17

H. M. WILLATE (sic) of Van Buren Township, Union County, Arkansas

H. M. Willates (sic) was born in 1826 in Virginia. He married about 1849, or early 1850, Lusaney (b 1836 in Alabama), most likely in Union County, Arkansas. (1850 Union County, Arkansas, census).

W.18

WILLIAM WILLETT and MARY MITTON of Union County, Arkansas

William Willett was in 1829. He married in Union County, Arkansas, on October 11, 1850, Mary Mitton (b 1829). He enrolled in the Confederate Army in Union County, Arkansas, and served in Company H., 28th Louisiana Volunteers, from 1862 until 1865.

William Willett died on March 25, 1876.

Mary Willett, widow, applied for a pension, application number 13130, and it was approved on August 21, 1902. Mary died on May 21, 1929, at Lisbon, Union County, Arkansas.

W.19
ROBERT M. WILLETT of Camden, Arkansas

Robert M. Willett was born in 1831. He was enlisted at Camden, Arkansas, by Colonel Grinsted, for 3 years on June 17, 1862. He had travelled 8 miles to get to Camden to enlist. He served with Company B, 33th Arkansas Infantry. He was listed as a deserter on August 1, 1863; but had returned by August 21.

He continued serving the Confederacy. On January 29, 1864, he was left at Camp Bragg, sick, in the charge of the Surgeon General, by order of General Tappan.

W.20
N. WILLETT of Arkadelphia, Arkansas

N. Willett was was born about (or before) 1830. He enlisted in Company H, 33rd Arkansas Infantry, on March 1, 1863, at Arkadelphia, Arkansas, under Captain Neeley for three years.

He re-enlisted on July 17, 1864, at Arkadelphia, by Gantt. He was last paid by Eleston on August 31, 1864. He had been sent off on Army business by order of Major Stock in January, and had not returned.

W.21
WILLETT family of Brush Creek Township, Washington County, Arkansas

There were 2 Willett families living in Brush Creek Township, Washington County, Arkansas in 1850. Most likely, they were brothers and sisters. No information about their parents is known at this time, and they are recorded here together as a convenience.

1. Richard: b 1827 in Alabama. He married about 1849 Elizabeth (b 1832 in Alabama). They were living in Brush Creek Township, Washington County, Arkansas, in 1850; no children are listed; and, the following Willetts were living in the Harrison Willett household close by. (1850 Washington County, Arkansas, census).

2. Harrison: b 1830 in Tennessee. In 1850, he was a farmer residing in Brush Creek Township, Washington County, Arkansas. The next 3 Willetts were living in Harrison's household; most likely they were his brothers and sisters. (1850 Washington County, Arkansas, census).

3. John: b 1832 in Tennessee. (1850 Washington County, Arkansas, census).

4. Martha: b 1834 in Tennessee. (1850 Washington County, Arkansas, census).

5. James: b 1836 in Texas. (1850 Washington County, Arkansas, census).

CHAPTER TWENTY-FOUR
A SURVEY OF MAINE AND CANADA

X.1
JACOB WILLETT of Maine

The earliest known Willett in Maine was the young Thomas Willett who in the 1630s operated a trading post at Penoscot River for the Pilgrims. His story is found in Chapter One.

The earliest known Willett who may have lived for a while in Maine is that of Jacob Willett. It is not certain, but Jacob Willett of Maine may have been the same as Jacob Willett, haberdasher of London. On December 11, 1658, A Nicholas Gifford, citizen and painter stayner of London, Thomas Laylock, citizen and merchant taylor of London, and Jacob Willett, haberdasher of London, are named in a convevance dated December 11, 1658, which referred to parcells of land, mills, plantations, etc., in New England, Barbados, and New Foundland (Docket 2146, Records of the Superior Court of Judicature, Court House Annex, Boston, Massachusetts).

Jacob was probably born in London. His will is given below. In 1677, Maine was a part of Massachusetts, and remained a county of Massachusetts until 1820. It s unknown why his will was recorded in Maine.

> "In the name of God, Amen: Jacob Willett, Late of the City of London, and now resident in ye Island of Barbados, Merchant, being Very Sick and wesk in Body, but of Sound and Good mind and Memory, Praised bee ascribed to the Lord God for ye Same; and knowing the uncertainty and frality of the life and Blood of all flesh and also for the Better Settlement of my Estate in this Island, Doe make and ordain this my last Will and Testament in Manner and frome following:
>
> and firstly: I Recommend my Soul to God my maker.
>
> Secondly: I Doe constitute ordain and Appoint my Trusty and well Beloved friend Mr. Ralph Lane of the Said Island of Barbados to be my Executor in Trust to take Care for acting and to Accomplish all my affairs herein this Island and New England, So far forth as concerns my Estate in Either of the afore mentioned Countrys, and that only for ye Good benefit and advantage of my wife and Children in old England.
>
> Thirdly and lastly: I Do appoint my Trysty Friend Mr. Ralph Lane to be not only my Executor in Trust to take care for all things concnerning my funerall Expences thereon which he is to be Satisfyed and this I Do Publish and Declare as my Last Will and Testament in Barbados. In Testimony whereof I ye said Jacob Willett have hereunto Set my hand and Seal this 4th Day of September, 1677.
>
> Signed, Sealed in the Presence of — Jacob Willett
> Ann Emroy
> Mary (x) Willson
> Henry Hunt
> (Maine Wills, Sargent, 1887, pages 338-339)

This was recorded in Probate Office 4 (No. 148); it was probated on May 1, 1733.

X.2
JOHN D. WILLETT of Hancock Plantation, Aroostock County, Maine

John D. Willett was born in Canada in 1834. He married Reta (b 1830 in Canada). In 1850 he was a farmer at Hancock Plantation, Aroostock, Maine. (1850 census).

1. Belle: b 1848 in Canada. (1850 census).

X.3
PETER WILLETT of Van Buren Plantation, Aroostock County, Maine

Peter Willett was born in 1799 in Canada. He married Mary (b 1805 in Maine). Van Buren is a city on Canadian border situated on the St. John River with Leonard, Canada, on the opposite side of the river.

In 1850, he was a laborer at the Van Buren Plantation, Aroostock County, Maine. (1850 census).

1. Zazu (?): b 1833 in Maine; male. (1850 census).

2. Talley: b 1833 in Maine; female. (1850 census).

X.4
EDWARD WILLETT of Van Buren Plantation, Aroostock County, Maine

Edward Willett was born in 1820 in Canada. He married Aslec (b 1824 in Canada). In 1850 he was a laborer at the Van Buren Plantation, Aroostock County, Maine. (1850 census).

1. Louisa: b 1846 in Maine. (1850 census).

2. Caroline: b 1848 in Maine. (1850 census).

X.5
BENJAN WILLET of Madawaska Township, Aroostock County, Maine

Benjan Willet was born in 1825 in Canada. Madawaska is a paper mill and logging town on the St. John River. On the opposite bank is Edmundston, New Brunswick, Canada. This is the northern most town in the state of Maine. The area to the south at Fort Kent, Maine, was settled by Acadian refugees in 1829.

Benjan married Mary Ann (b 1825 in Canada). In 1850, he was a laborer living in Madawaska Township, Aroostock County, Maine. (1850 census).

1. Benjan: b 1848 in Maine. (1850 census).

X.6

EUPHAZEN WILLET of Madawaska Township, Aroostock County, Maine

Euphazen Willet was born in 1810 in Maine. It is unknown who her husband was. In 1850, she is living in Madawaska Township, Aroostock County, Maine. (1850 census).

1. Olive: b 1835 in Maine. (1850 census).

2. Sophia: b 1836 in Maine. (1850 census).

3. Fleva: b 1840 in Maine. (1850 census).

4. Eugene: b 1843 in Maine. (1850 census).

5. Vetal: b 1845 in Maine. (1850 census).

X.7

JOHN B. WILLETT of Madawaska Township, Aroostock County, Maine

John B. Willett was born in 1800 in Canada. He married Mamet (b 1810 in Canada). In 1850 he was a church warden in Madawaska Township, Aroostock County, Maine. (1850 census).

1. Isreal: b 1831 in Canada; he was a laborer in 1850 in Maine. (1850 census).

2. Herbert: b 1833 in Maine. (1850 census).

3. Joseph: b 1839 in Maine. (1850 census).

X.8

EDWARD WILLET of Madawaska Township, Aroostock County, Maine

Edward Willet was born in 1814 in Canada. He married Marcella (b 1820 in Canada). In 1850 he was a laborer living in Madawaska Township, Maine. (1850 census).

1. Edward: b 1846 in Canada. (1850 census).

2. Philona: b 1848 in Maine. (1850 census).

X.9

FRANCIS WILLET of Madawaska Township, Aroostock County, Maine

Francis Willet was born in 1782 in Canada. In 1850 he is a farmer living in Madawaska Township, Aroostock County, Maine. It is uncertain if the Bruno is his son, but it is likely since he is living in Francis' household. (1850 census).

1. Bruno: b 1820 in Canada; m Luead (b 1824 in Canada). (1850 census).

1. Flen: b 1842 in Maine; female. (1850 census).

2. Plased: b 1845 in Maine; male. (1850 census).

3. Christn: b 1847 in Maine; female..(1850 census).

X.10

ALEXANDER WILLET of Madawaska Township, Aroostock County, Maine

Alexander Willet was born in 1806 in Canada. He married Toyates. In 1850 he is a laborer living in Madawaska Township, Aroostock County, Maine. (1850 census).

1. Roma: b 1830 in Maine; male. (1850 census).

2. Mary: b 1831 in Maine. (1850 census).

3. Sophia: b 1833 in Maine. (1850 census).

4. Crejohn: b 1836 in Maine; female. (1850 census).

5. Landon: b 1838 in Maine. (1850 census).

6. Matelde: b 1840 in Maine; female. (1850 census).

7. Stansey: b 1841 in Maine; female. (1850 census).

8. Taddy: b 1844 in Maine; male. (1850 census).

X.11

EDWARD WILLET of Madawaska Township, Aroostock County, Maine

Edward Willet was born in 1815 in Canada. He married Elenor (b 1806 in Canada). In 1850 he was a farmer in Madawaska Township, Maine. (1850 census).

1. Joseph: b 1834 in Maine. In 1850, he was working as a laborer. (1850 census).

2. George: b 1838 in Maine. (1850 census).

3. Tedda: b 1840 in Maine; male. (1850 census).

4. Annida: b 1841 in Maine; female. (1850 census).

5. Philona: b 1842 in Maine. (1850 census).

6. Susan: b 1846 in Maine. (1850 census).

7. Mary: b 1850 in Maine. (1850 census).

X.12
WILLIAM WILLET of Madawaska Township, Aroostock County, Maine

William Willet was born in 1785 in Canada. He married Mary. In 1850 he was a farmer living in Madawaska Township, Aroostock County, Maine. (1850 census).

1. Joseph: b 1816 in Canada; m Clerace (b 1820 in Canada). (1850 census).
    1. Flen: b 1843 in Canada; female. (1850 census).
    2. Joseph: b 1845 in Maine. (1850 census).
    3. Sophia: b 1847 in Maine. (1850 census).
2. Olim: b 1829 in Maine. (1850 census).
3. Leander: b 1831 in Maine. (1850 census).
4. Lena: b 1832 in Maine. (1850 census).
5. Oltan: b 1836 in Maine; male. (1850 census).
6. Telle: b 1835 in Maine; female. (1850 census).
7. Philom: b 1838 in Maine. (1850 census).
8. Beleny: b 1840 in Maine; male. (1850 census).
9. Benjan: b 1843 in Maine. (1850 census).

X.13
JOSEPH WILLET of Madawaska Township, Aroostock County, Maine

Joseph Willet was born in 1790 in Canada. He married Thamist (b 1805 in Canada). In 1850, he was a laborer living in Madawaska Township, Aroostock County, Maine. (1850 census).

1. Sarah: b 1831 in Canada. (1850 census).
2. Swansey: b 1834 in Canada; female. (1850 census).
3. Ely: b 1836 in Canada. (1850 census).

X.14
AMAY WILLET of Aroostock County, Maine

Amay Willet was born in 1810 in Canada. He married Esther (b 1824 in Canada). In 1850, he was a farmer living at Number 17, Range 9, in Aroostock County, Maine. (1850 census).

1. Mary: b 1836 in Canada. (1850 census).

2. Christen: b 1840 in Canada. (1850 census).

3. David: b 1843 in Canada. (1850 census).

4. George H: b 1845 in Maine. (1850 census).

5. Elizabeth: b 1847 in Maine. (1850 census).

6. Josephine: b Aug 1850 in Maine. (1850 census).

X.15
WILLIAM WILLET of Aroostock County, Maine

William Willet was born in 1820 in Canada. He married Olive (b 1833 in New Brunswick, Canada). In 1850, he was a farmer living at Number 17, Range 9, Aroostock County, Maine. (1850 census).

X.16
ALEZANDER WILLETT of Orono, Penobscot County, Maine

Alexander Willett was born in 1781 in Canada. He married Charlotte (b 1797 in Canada). In 1850, he is a laborer living in Orono, Penobscot County, Maine. It would seem, from the places of birth of his children that he lived in Madawaska Township, Aroostock County, Maine from 1826 to 1832. (1850 census).

Orono and Old Town are on the west bank of the Penobscot River. This is the old trading post which Captain Thomas Willett (1611-1674) was associated with in the 1630s. Bradley and Milford are on the east bank, and Bangor, Maine, is just a few miles south.

1. Lawry: b 1826 in Madawaska Township. (1850 census).

2. Peter T: b 1828 in Madawaska Township. (1850 census).

3. Andrew: b 1829 in Madawaska Township. (1850 census).

4. Russell: b 1830 in Madawaska Township. (1850 census).

5. Martha: b 1832 in Madawaska Township. (1850 census).

6. Cefoy: b 1834 in Madawaska Township. (1850 census).

7. Edwaugh: b 1836 in Maine. (1850 census).

8. Elizabeth: b 1837 in Maine. (1850 census).

X.17
CHARLES WILLET of Orono, Penobscot County, Maine

Charles Willet was born in 1790 in Canada. He married Mary (b 1795 in Canada). In 1850 he was a laborer living in Orono, Penobscot County, Maine. (1850 census).

1. Peter: b 1830 in Canada. (1850 census).

2. John: b 1839 in Madawaska Township, Maine. (1850 census).

3. Madeline: b 1845 in Madawaska Township, Maine. (1850 census).

X.18
JOSEPH WILLET of Orono, Penobscot County, Maine

Joseph Willet was born in 1820 in Canada. He married Harriet (b 1824 in Canada). In 1850, he was a laborer living in Orono, Penobscot County, Maine. (1850 census).

1. Philomon: b 1846 in Madawaka Township. (1850 census).

2. Joseph: b 1847 in Madawaska Township. (1850 census).

X.19
WILLIAM WILLET of Bradley, Penobscot County, Maine

William Willet was born in 1821 in Canada. He married Mary (b 1823 in Cnada). In 1850, he is a sawyer at Bradley, Penobscot County, Maine. (1850 census).

1. Jane: b 1843 in New Brunswick, Canada. (1850 census).

2. William: b 1844 in New Brunswick, Canada. (1850 census).

3. Joseph: b 1848 in Maine. (1850 census).

4. Dustie: b Jul 1850 in Maine. (1850 census).

X.20
JOSEPH WILLET of Bradley, Penobscot County, Maine

Joseph Willet was born in 1809 in Canada. He married Eliza (b 1811 in Canada). In 1850, he was a sawyer living at Bradley, Penobscot County, Maine. (1850 census).

1. Sophia: b 1836 in Maine. (1850 census).

2. David: b 1841 in Maine. (1850 census).

3. Elizabeth: b 1841 in Maine. (1850 census).

4. Orhelie: b Jun 1850 in Maine. (1850 census).

X.21
BAPTISTE WILLETT of Old Town, Penobscot County, Maine

Bapiste Willett was born in 1826 in Canada. He married about 1846 Wealthy (b 1826 in Maine). (1850 census).

1. Thomas: b 1847 in Maine. (1850 census).

X.22
JOHN WILLIT of Milford, Penobscot County, Maine

John Willit was born in 1810 in Canada. It is unknown who he married. (1850 census).

1. Frances: b 1838 in Canada; female. (1850 census).

2. Peter: b 1845 in Canada. (1850 census).

X.23
LAROY A. WILLETT and ELLA of Pittston, Kennebec County, Maine

Laroy A. Willett was married to Ella before 1878. (Gardiner's Maine Vital Record to 1892, Pittston, Maine, Births, page 139).

1. Rose: b January 19, 1878.

X.24
EDWARD W. WILLETT and VETALINE of Kennebec County, Maine

Edward W. Willett married Vetaline before 1880. (Gardiner's Maine Vital Record to 1892, Pittston, Maine, Deaths, page 514).

1. Frank H: d August 13, 1890; age 11 months, 11 days.

CHAPTER TWENTY-FIVE
CANADA: FRENCH PIONEERS AND BRITISH LOYALISTS

More than seven and a half centuries before our story begins, Norsemen under Eric the Red had already found the "New World." They left their imprint at L'Anse aux Meadows in Newfoundland. These hardy Vikings wintered there, in what was to become the Maritime Provinces of Canada, on the edge of a grassy meadow about the year 1000 A.D. They lived in turf-walled houses, lounged in a steam bath, and forged nails from the local bog iron.

The name Willett had been used in Somerset, England, even before this. However, the thread of our story begins during the American Revolution when the Loyalist who had supported King George were forced into making a decision as to whether to stay in a hostile land or leave. These Loyalists preferred to make changes in government by democratic, peaceful, means, rather than resorting to violence. Because the British Empire had provided law, order and security to these citizens many continued their allegiance to the King and chose to leave. In 1780, the ship "Charming Molly" brought the first Boston Loyalists from New England to Annapolis and Granville towns in Annapolis County, Nova Scotia. In 1783, Clement and Wilmot were settled by Loyalists. In 1783, the ship "Atlantis" brought Digby and many other Loyalists, including the first black people from New York and New Jersey. Most of the black Loyalists lived in Birchtown, Shelby County (at one time the largest black community in North America).

There are at least four Willetts who removed to Canada about this time. No Willetts were in the Granville census of 1770, but in the muster roll of 1784, Coronet Samuel Willett and Lieutenant Walter Willett are listed. Captain Walter Willett and his cousin Samuel were well-known Loyalists who actively fought as officers in the British Legion (see G.2.10.5.2, and G.2.10.6.4). Loyalists, like Walter and Samuel, who lived in the Thirteen Colonies before the Revolution and who were compelled because of their beliefs to immigrate, are known as United Empire Loyalists.

Other Willetts came about the same time. William Willett of Cape Breton and Nova Scotia (see this chapter) and established a family with descendents who still today live in the Maritime Provinces. Another William Willett (see chapter twenty-one) came from Philadelphi with his new wife, Mary Gilker, and settled in New Richmond, Quebec. He also has descendents living in the same area. J. E. Bookstaver made the interesting statement, unfortunately unsupported in his book, that some Canadians "are descendents of Continental prisoners of war carried from Virginia." Other Willetts were Loyalists. But not all chose to immigrate. Gilbert Colden Willett (G.2.1.1.4), Charles Willett (G.2.3.3.1), Thomas Willett (G.9.6), and Edward Willett (G.9.8), all loyalists, chose to stay and settle their personal differences with their neighbors.

Y.1
WILLIAM WILLETT and MARY NEARIN of Cape Breton

William Willett lived in Cape Breton, Canada. There is no record of him receiving land at the time of the Loyalist immigration after the American Revolution. From the date of his marriage, he must have been born about 1795. This places him outside of the Loyalist group of immigrants; but he may have been a son of a Loyalist. Family tradition relates that he came from Virginia. Unfortunately, no facts have been found in Virginia to support this tradition.

William Willett married on November 2, 1818, Mary Nearin (St. George, Anglican Register). (Bookstaver, page 4).

1. George: b 1831; m abt 1855 Henrietta. See next Y.1.1.

2. John: b 1834.

3. Lawrence: b 1837; m abt 1860 Elizabeth Martell. See next Y.1.3.

Y.1.1
GEORGE WILLETT and HENRIETTA of Cape Breton, Newfoundland

George Willett was born in 1831. He married about 1855 Henrietta. They resided at Cape Breton, the northernmost portion of the province of Newfoundland.

1. Mary: b 1858.

2. Alice: b 1860.

3. Henrietta: b 1862.

4. Phoebe: b 1868.

Y.1.3
LAWRENCE WILLETT and ELIZABETH MARTELL of Cape Breton, Newfoundland

Lawrence Willett was born in 1837. He married about 1860 Elizabeth Martell. They resided at Cape Breton, Newfoundland.

1. William: b 1864; d 1901.

2. John Albert: b October 26, 1866; m abt 1890 Margaret McDonald of Newfoundland; a sea captain. See next Y.1.3.2.

3. Lawrence: b 1867; m abt 1890 Ida McGillivray; d 1948. See next Y.1.3.3.

4. Bertha: b 1870; m abt 1890 John A. Leslie, a sea captain of Spry Bay, Nova Scotia.

5. Ada: b 1877; m abt 1898 William La Vatte of Louisburg; lived at Sydney River.

6. Alice Lorena: b 1873; unmarried; d 1891.

7. Joseph: b 1879; m abt 1900 Elizabeth McGillivray. See next Y.1.3.7.

8. George: b July 10, 1881; m April 30, 1904, Selena May McGillivray (b 19 Dec 1883). See next Y.1.3.8.

9. Susan: b 1880; unmarried; d 194-.

Y.1.3.2
JOHN ALBERT WILLETT and MARGARET MCDONALD of Newfoundland

John Albert Willett was born in 1866. He married about 1890 Margaret McDonald of Newfoundland. He was a sea captain.

1. John Albert: unmarried.

2. Sadie: unmarried.

3. Gordon: m Annie Marie McIsaac of Sydney, Cape Breton (d 1976). He died in 1981.

    1. John: m French of Newfoundland.

        1. John Gordon.

Y.1.3.3
LAWRENCE WILLETT and CAROLINE MCGILLIVRAY of Nova Scotia

Lawrence Willett was born in 1867. He married Caroline McGillivray. He died in 1948.

1. Lawrence Joseph: b September 11, 1911; m August 1, 1942, Ola Elaine Luddington; resides in Glasgow, Nova Scotia. See next Y.1.3.3.1.

2. George Edward: b 1913; m December 4, 1937, Ada Marion Langdon. See next Y.1.3.3.2.

3. Alice: b June, 1915; m Harold Langley, the brother of Ida Marion Langley.

4. Charles: b 1914; m abt 1935 Smith. See next Y.1.3.3.4.

5. Millie: b September 2, 1919; m Edward McAuley of Sydney.

6. Mary: b December 9, 1921; m Fritckett, Ontario.

7. Clarice: b June 9, 1925; m Clabeck, Ontario.

8. Alberta: b Aril 12, 1929; d December, 1929.

9. David: b before 1932; unmarried.

Y.1.3.3.1
LAWRENCE JOSEPH WILLETT and OLA ELAINE LUDDINGTON
of New Glasgow, Nova Scotia

Lawrence Joseph Willett was born on September 11, 1911. He married on August 1, 1942, Ola Elaine Luddington (b 30 Aug 1930). He lives in New Glasglow, Nova Scotia.

1. Ida Elaine: m Charles Calabuse if Massachusetts; divorced.

2. John Charles: b September 28, 1945; m Trixie L. Wallace.

    1. John Walter: b May 9, 1971.

3. Lawrence Tupper: b March 3, 1951; m 1st Brenda O'Connor; divorced.

    1. Michael Darrene: b August 24, 1970; adopted.

    2. Martin Charles: b May 9, 1974.

    3. Jeffrey:

4. Katherine Evelyn: b March 25, 1953; m August 17, 1973 Gary Charles Coakes.

5. Lorraine Jean: b March 25, 1955; unmarried.

Y.1.3.3.2
GEORGE EDWARD WILLETT and ADA MARION LANGLEY of Nova Scotia

George Edward Willett was born in 1913. He married on December 4, 1937, Ada Marion Langley. They lived in Nova Scotia.

1. Daniel: adopted.

Y.1.3.3.4
CHARLES WILLETT of Dumbarton, Scotland

Charles Willett was born in 1914. He married about 1935 Smith. They live in Dumbarton, Scotland.

1. Charles Lawrence: m during WW II; living in Dumbarton, Scotland.

Y.1.3.7
JOSEPH WILLETT and ELIZABETH MCGILLIVRAY of Nova Scotia

Joseph Willett was born in 1879. He married about 1890 Elizabeth McGillivray. They lived in Nova Scotia.

1. Cecil: b abt 1895; unmarried.

2. Rev. Joseph: b abt 1900; m Elsie Conrad.

    1. Elizabeth: unmarried.

    2. David.

3. Olive: b 1910; m Rev. D.W. Colwell (b 1905) of Fredericton, New Brunswick.

4. Mary: b abt 1912; m George Tucker.

5. Lloyd: b abt 1915; m Margaret.

    1. David: adopted.

Y.1.3.8
GEORGE WILLETT and MAY MCGILLIVRAY of Nova Scotia

George Willett was born on July 10, 1881. He married on April 30, 1904, May McGillivray (b December 19, 1883). They lived in Nova Scotia. He died in 1954.

1. Ada Georgina: b September 9, 1905; m June, 1931, Frank Robertson.

2. Lawrence McGillivray: b September 9, 1907, at Louisburg, Cape Breton; m January 12, 1939, Anna Adelia Chiasson (b 1914) of Halifax, Nova Scotia. See next Y.1.3.8.2.

3. Robert Andrew: b March 14, 1909, in Nova Scotia; m Kathryn McDonald; d April 6, 1981. See next Y.1.3.8.3.

4. George Albert: b February 22, 1911; m Kate Burke; d 1965. See next Y.1.3.8.4.

5. Grace Mary Loretta: b March 21, 1914; m August, 1939, John Angus Campbell.

6. Jane Florence Henrietta: unmarried; lives in Antigonish, Nova Scotia.

7. Elizabeth Josephine May: served in CWAC Canadian Army during World War II; m 1st 1938 William Whitewood, deceased; m 2d Robert Fulton of North Bay, Ontario.

8. William James: m 1942 Rosalie Walsh of Glace Bay. Retired from Canadian Army. Lives in Ottawa.

9. Frederick Paul: d in infancy.

Y.1.3.8.2
LAWRENCE MCGILLIVRAY WILLETT and ANNA CHIASSON of Enfield, Nova Scotia

Lawrence McGillivray Willett was born in 1907 at Lousiburg, Cape Breton. He married January 12, 1939, Anna Adelia Chiasson (b 1914) of Halifax, Nova Scotia. He was a radio technician and then a radar technician with the Marconi Company. He was on loan to the Canadian Army during World War II and stationed at Syndey. He retired in 1970.

Lawrence Willett resides at Enfield, Nova Scotia. Enfield was originally settled by Loyalists who came from Enfield, connecticutt (and who were originally from Enfield, England). His address is Enfield Post Office, Enfield, Nova Scotia, Canada, B0N 1N0.

1. Lawrence Thomas: b November 6, 1939; m February 16, 1966, Muriel Ann Horne (b January 26, 1945).

    1. Lawrence Gerald: b October 10, 1969.

    2. Jacob Horne Samuel: b October 16, 1975.

2. Anna Mae (Nancy): b March 24, 1942; m June 25, 1966, Galtano Galante.

    1. Anna Maria Galante: b October 14, 1968.

    2. Rosalia Galante: b March 16, 1975.

    3. Marcello Guesippe Galante: b August 21, 1979.

3. Michael Joseph: b November 18, 1943; m October 19, 1965, Rosemary Clark (b November 14, 1945). He resides at 26 Garden Court Terrace, Dartmouth, Nova Scotia, Canada, B3A 3S6.

    1. Amber Holly: b May 16, 1975.

    2. Toni Laurel: b February 20, 1978.

Y.1.3.8.3
ROBERT ANDREW WILLETT and KAYTHERN MCDONALD of Halifax, Nova Scotia

Robert Andrew Willett was born on March 14, 1909. He married Kathryn McDonald. He was a coal miner, and served overseas in the Signal Tank Corp. Later, he came to Halifax and worked in a drug company. He died on April 6, 1981.

1. Donald: b 1938; m Eileen Walsh of Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island.

    1. Kathryn: adopted.

    2. Kevin: adopted.

2. May: m Jack Swan.

3. Margaret: m Terence Evans of North Sydney, Cape Breton.

4. Heather Dorothy: unmarried.

5. Andrew: unmarried.

Y.1.3.8.4
GEORGE ALBERT WILLETT and KATE BURKE of Nova Scotia

George Albert Willett was born on Februaryy 22, 1911. He married Kate Burke. He died in 1965.

1. Selena (Sally): m Jones.

2. Frederick: m McQueen; resided in Ontario; d 1965.

    1. Heather:

3. Grace: m Gary McPherson.

4. Joseph: of Newfoundland.

Y.2
FRANCOIS OUELETTE and ELIZABETH BARE of Paris, France

Francois Ouelette was born about 1598, possibly in or near Paris, France. He married at St. Jacques Du Hout, Pas Paris, France, in 1620 Elizabeth Bare of Manville, France.

The French form of Ouelette is pronounced the same as the English Willett. Often the name French and English forms are used interchangeably, particularly by French Canadian families.

1. Rene Ouelette: b 1635 at Parc of St. Joseph, Paris, France; immigrated to Canada about 1655 and married in Canada on March 8, 1666, Anne Rinet (b 1642 at St. Geirois, Ville De Seis, Normandy, France). See next Y.2.1.

Y.2.1
RENE OUELETTE and ANNE RINET of Canada

Rene Ouelette was born in 1635 at Parc of St. Joseph, Paris, France. He immigrated to Canada about 1655 and married in Canada on March 8, 1666, Anne Rinet (b 1642 at St. Geirois, Ville De Seis, Normandy, France).

1. Mathurine Rene Ouelette: b September 14, 1669, at St. Femele, Quebec, Canada; m January 8, 1691, at Revien, Ovell, Canada, Angeline La Belle (b 1672), the daughter of Nicolas La Belle and Tressa Mignot. See next Y.2.1.1.

Y.2.1.1
MATHURINE RENE OUELETTE and ANGELINE LA BELLE of Quebec, Canada

Mathurine Rene Ouelette was born on September 14, 1669, at St. Femele, Quebec, Canada. He married on January 8, 1691, at Revien, Ovell, Canada, Angeline La Belle (b 1672), the daughter of Nicolas La Belle and Tressa Mignot.

1. Andre Ouelette: b abt 1705; m abt 1735 Margaret La Vasseur. See next Y.2.1.1.1.

Y.2.1.1.1
ANDRE OUELETTE and MARGARET LA VASSEUR of Canada

Andre Ouelette was born about 1705. He married about 1735 Margaret La Vasseur.

1. Morrisoville Ouelette: b 1746; m abt 1770 Angeline Edmond. See next Y.2.1.1.1.1.

Y.2.1.1.1.1
MORRISOVILLE OUELETTE and ANGELINE EDMOND of Canada

Morrisoville Ouelette was born in 1746. He married about 1770 Angeline Edmond.

1. Andre Ouelette: b 1788 in Canada; m abt 1810 Madeline Metauson. See next Y.2.1.1.1.1.1.

Y.2.1.1.1.1.1
ANDRE OUELETTE (alias SAM WILLETT) and MADELINE METAUSON
of Hampton Township, Saginaw County, Michigan

Andre Ouelette was born in 1816 at the Isle Virtle, Quithick, Canada. He married about 1844 Margaret Meteria (b 1829, Michigan) of St. Clair County, Michigan.

He came to Michigan about 1825. He changed his name to Sam Willett. No reason is known for this change, except that Willett is the English equilvalent of the French Ouelette. In 1850, he was a laborer. (1850 Hampton Township, Saginaw County, Michigan, census).

1. Joseph: b 1845 at Bay County, Michigan; m in Bay County, Michigan, 1873 Lorentha Gould of Canada; he was a fisherman; d 1925 in Bay City, Bay County, Michigan. (1850 Hampton Township, Saginaw County, Michigan, census). See next Y.2.1.1.1.1.1.1.

2. Samuel: b 1847. (1850 Hampton Township, Saginaw County, Michigan, census).

3. (son): b May-June, 1850. (1850 Hampton Township, Saginaw County, Michigan, census).

Y.2.1.1.1.1.1.1

JOSEPH WILLETT and LORENTHA GOULD of Bay City, Bay County, Michigan

Joseph Willett was born in 1845 in Bay County, Michigan. He married in Bay County, Michigan, in 1863, Lorentha Gould of Canada. He was a fisherman, and died in 1925 at Bay City, Bay County, Michigan.

1. William: b abt 1865.

2. Robert: b abt 1867.

3. Jack: b abt 1869.

4. Rosa: b March, 1871, at Quanicassee, near Bay City, Michigan; m abt 1890 Fred Johnroe (b 1840 Canada; d 1928 Bay City, Michigan). Fred Johnroe was ¼ Indian. See next Y.2.1.1.1.1.1.1.4.

5. Francis: b abt 1873; spelled his name Willette; m Feredett.

Y.2.1.1.1.1.1.1.4

ROSA WILLETT and FRED JOHNROE of Bay County, Michigan

Rosa Willett was born on March, 1871, at Quanicassee, near Bay City, Michigan. She married about 1890 Fred Johnroe (b 1840 Canada; d 1928 Bay City, Michigan). Fred Johnroe was ¼ Indian.

1. Violet Johnroe: b 1893; m Arthur Willett (b December 23, 1889; d December 13, 1966); d 1940.

1. Alvery Willett: b January 28, 1913, at Aus Gres, Michigan; m March 17, 1931, John E. Arquette (b July 23, 1912); resides in Standish, Arenac County, Michigan.

1. John Arthur Arquette: b abt 1933.

2. Elizabeth Ann Arquette: m Donald John Liesdon.

3. Robert George Arquette:

4. Joan Violet Arquette: m Nisner.

Y.3

LOUIS GABRIEL WILLET and KINZIAH MARTIN of Lower Canada

Louis Gabriel Willet was born in 1813 in Lower Canada. He married in Lower Canada in 1813 Kinziah Martin.

1. June (Ellen): b 1836 in Lower Canada.

2. John: b 1839 in Lower Canada.

3. Matilda: b 1842 in Lower Canada.

4. James: b 1844 in Lower Canada; m abt 1865 Sarah; d January 22, 1905; buried at the Foley Cemetery, Parry Sound, Ontario, Canada.

5. Peter Holmes: b August 7, 1846, in Upper Canada; m Harriet Ann Tremain (b March 5, 1855; d November 2, 1932). See next Y.3.5.

6. Edward: b 1848 in Upper Canada.

7. Mary: b 1850 in Madoc, Hastings County, Ontario; m abt 1870 John Clark.

8. Cariella: b 1851 in Madoc, Hastings County, Ontario.

9. Gilbert: b 1853 in Madoc, Hastings County, Ontario.

10. Sarah: b 1854 in Madoc, Hastings County, Ontario; m 1st Joseph Schackleton; m 2d Alex Ladouceur.

11. George Alexander: b July 12, 1857; m Bridget Ann; d December 19, 1911; buried in Midland, Ontario.

Y.3.5

PETER HOLMES WILLETT and HARRIET ANN TREMAIN of Sanilac County, Michigan

Peter Holmes Willett was born on August 7, 1853, in Upper Canada. He married on July 2, 1872, Harriett Ann Tremain (b March 5, 1855, in Canada; d November 2, 1932, in Dockerville, Forester, Michigan, and is buried there), the daughter of William Tremain and Harriett Harris.

1. John Franklin: b July 18, 1873; m Winnifred Wiltie Atherton; d June 21, 1946, and buried in the Evergreen Cenmetery, Burton, Genesee County, Michigan.

2. Rose Etta: b December 2, 1875; m William Hendy; d August 24, 1948; buried in Downington, Michigan.

3. Frederic: b March 30, 1877; d 1883 in Oscala, Iosco County, Michigan; Oscala is on Lake Huron.

4. Walter A: b February 15, 1879, in Forester, Michigan; m Clara Bless; d September 8, 1955.

5. Emma Clara: b January 1, 1881; d 1883 Oscala, Michigan.

6. George: b December 28, 1882; m Clara; d November, 1960; buried Rock Falls Cemetery, Harns Beach, Michigan.

7. Mary Agnes: b August 8, 1885, in Forester, Michigan; m Guy Putman; d May 31, 1971.

8. William Frederic: b March 5, 1887; m Maude Baird; d July 16, 1979, in Forester, Michigan.

1. Florence: m Thiede.

9. James Albert: b June 19, 1888; m Grace Witheral; d June 23, 1926.

10. Christina: b May 24, 1890; m John Eagleson; d July 8, 1965.

11. Eua J: b September 18, 1891; m Paul Boldt.

12. Anna Bell: b June 9, 1893; m Tompkins; d May 20, 1956.

13. Susan: b June 9, 1895; m Weiner.

CHAPTER TWENTY-SIX
UNITED EMPIRE LOYALISTS of NEW RICHMOND, QUEBEC

James Willett was born in 1649, the son of Thomas and Mary (Brown) Willett (see Chapter One). He married Ellen Hunt. According to a highly suspect, and totally unsupported tradition, he went to Northampton County, Virginia, and settled there. James Willett is supposed to have a son, Thomas Willett.

Thomas Willett was born in 1670 and is reputed to have been a Burgess of Northumberland County, Virginia, and he is supposed to be the ancestor of this branch. He married Polly (or variously reported as Elizabeth Prudence, or Mary) Burgis who is supposedly from an influential family of Hampton Roads. However, Hampton Roads refers to a body of water at the conjunction of the James River and the Cheaspeake Bay, and has never been used to refer to a settlement, locale, town or village. These facts about this Thomas Willett have not been proven to date, and no Thomas Willett of either Northumberland, Northampton, or the adjacent Accomack County, Virginia, is known to be living at this time who even remotely fits the facts. According to this tradition, Thomas had a son William (Bookstaver, page 76).

Z.1
WILLIAM WILLETT and POLLY WAIT of Virginia

William Willett was born in 1710 (variously reported to be 1720, or 1730). He is supposed to have been a ship-builder, sailor, and ship's captain who married Polly Wait. According to Bookstaver, he was a colonial killed in the revolution in 1777 (Bookstaver, p 76). "This William, and two of his sons were killed, and the other two, William and Thomas, but lads, were spirited away to Louisianna; from hence William later went to New Richmond, Quebec. Whether Thomas remained or went with William is not known."

No individual is presently known who fits these facts. The only Virginian Willett to have died in the Revolution was an equally elusive Waitman Willett of the Accomack County Willett family. Waitman Willett died at the Battle of Germantown while serving in the 9th Virginia Regiment (made up of Accomack County soldiers). However, it is unknown at this time, if this Waitman Willett was married or had children. There is a William, son of Ambrose Willett of Accomack County, Virginia, who is mentioned in 1736 when he sells his inherited water mill to his uncle John, but he removes to Worchester County, Maryland. There is a Douglas Willett in the adjoining county of Northampton who it seems may have been a Tory; but he lives and dies in Northampton County. There is an interesting coincidence in the family name of Polly Wait. Wait and Waitman become Christian names in the Willett family at this time: Waitman Willett is killed at the Battle of Germantown (according to deposition by fellow soldiers Robert Russell, Hillary Wears, and Severn Scott, dated July 14, 1834). A Waitman Willett, wife Sally, leaves a will dated March 3, 1813, and his son Waitman, wife Elizabeth, leaves a will dated May 1, 1827. However, these may be just coincidences and nothing more.

1. son

2. son

3. William: b 1758, moved to New Richmond, Quebec, and although he is thought to be a United Empire Loyalist and may have arrived as early as 1783, the first time he is

mentioned definitedly as being in New Richmond is in 1794; m 1794 Mary Gilker of Philadelphi (b 1775, d September 25, 1813); d July 8, 1840. See next Z.1.3.

4. Thomas: b 1762.

Z.1.3
WILLIAM JOHN WILLETT, Jr., and MARY GILKER of New Richmond, Quebec

William John Willett, Jr., was born in 1758. He was probably a Catholic by birth (his son George is buried in the Catholic Cemetery). Tradition makes him a Virginian. With this William Willett we move from traditions, conjecture, and pausible ancestry to definite fact. Tradition makes him a Loyalist and places him in Virginia in 1780 from whence he sailed to New Richmond, Quebec, in his own vessel. New Richmond was one of three United Empire Loyalists villages settled on the Gaspe Coast. All that can definitely said is that William Willett arrived in New Richmond, Quebec, before 1794. He is the progenitor of the Willett families in New Richmond. William Willett probably bought his land from Charles Robin and Company. This was part of a 1,000 acre tract which was situated on the west side of the Grand Cascapedia River. This area was probably called New Richmond as early as 1787. It was situated between two Acadian settlements (Bonadventure and Carleton).

The earliest reference to the Cascapedia River area (later the location of New Richmond) was in 1765. However, New Richmond was not permenantly settled until the United Empire Loyalists came in 1784. As late as August 16, 1784, only four or five Indian families were settled on the Cascapedia River. It was on June 9, 1784, that the Brigs St. Peter, and Polly, the Snow Liberty, (Captain Azariah Pritchard), the Holy St. John's and several whale boats with a total of 315 passengers sailed down the St. Lawrence for the Bay of La Chaleur on the Gaspe Coast. These first comers probably arrived late in August or early in September. Another 88 Loyalists came later in that first year. Original settlers were John and George Duthrie, Duncan Robertson, William Willett, John James, and Prudence Gilker, John Johnson, and Captain Azariah Pritichard.

William Willett became a shipowner in New Richmond and married there, in 1794, Mary Gilker. She had been born in 1774 in New York, and died April 4, 1813, in New Richmond (probably in child birth). Her parents were George and Prudence (Harris) Gilker of Philadelphia in 1775. They had issue: (1) Mary, b 1774, (2) Jane, (3) Elizabeth, (4) Nancy, (5) James, b May 11, 1783, (6) John, (7) Samuel, b March 13, 1785, and (8) Stephen, who died during the migration to Canada. It is interesting to note that Samuel Gilker married Ann Matilda Purcell, and their son, Edmund, one of eight children, married a Sarah Willett.

Mary Gilker's family was Loyalist, and had sent her to Canada with the family of Ralph Pritchard, also a Loyalist. Mary Gilker worked a sampler in 1782 when she was eight and still living in Philadelphia. It was still in good condition in 1948, and in the possession of Gordon Gilker.

On March 2, 1802, William Willett's name appears on a petition to the Governor concerning the Gaspe Coast and the location certificates for land which were issued to the original Loyalists in 1784. These location certificates were not the same as land grants or land sales, and the old Loyalists had to petition for a legal instrument to protect their land and the improvements which they had made over the last 40 years. Other names on the petition were John and George Duthrie, Duncan Robertson, John, James, and Prudence Gilker, John Johnson, and Azariah Pritchard.

In July, 1820, William Willett had a claim for land situated in New Richmond before the Gaspe Land Claims Commmission Report as did his son George). This was for land as an

United Empire Loyalist. Tradition also makes him the owner of a store. Tradition also makes him a ship's captain who is shipped wrecked in the West Indies. William made his way back to New Richmond.

William Willett is mentioned as the head of a household in the 1825 New Richmond census; his sons George and Willie are also mentioned as heads of a household.

It is thought that William Willett died in July, 1841. It is thought that he was buried at Carelton. Mary Gilker died in April (year unknown). There was still an awful lot of ice on the bay and when she died they took her across the ice, about 20 miles, to Carleton to be buried.

Olive (Willett) Smith, in Gaspe the Romanique, says that William Willett left a diary of the adventures of his life. At present (1985) the whereabouts of the diary is unknown (Bookstaver, page 76).

A Willett's Point is part of the old homestead property in New Richmond and all the children of William John Willett were born in the old house there.

1. George A: b 1799, in New Richmond, Quebec; m Elizabeth Purcell; he was mayor of New Richmond from 1860 to 1863; bailiff in 1871. See next Z.1.3.1.

2. Peter Benjamin: b October 13, 1800, in New Richmond, Quebec; m February 11, 1833, Sarah Hamilton; d September 15, 1870. See next Z.1.3.2.

3. John: b 1801, in New Richmond, Quebec; m Nancy Pritchard. John lived on 50 acres beside his brother, William Thomas Willett. See next Z.1.3.3.

4. James W: b 1806, in New Richmond, Quebec; m Agnes Mclelan. See next Z.1.3.4.

5. Willis Leo: b abt 1808, in New Richmond, Quebec; m Mary O'Connor; d before 1861. See next Z.1.3.5.

6. Mary (Polly) Prudence: b 1810, in New Richmond, Quebec; m on June 28, 1831, William Mclellan (b 1806; d December 31, 1872) and they lived in Caplan (approximately 15 miles from New Richmond); d April 7, 1881, at age 71. Both are buried in the Protestant Churchyard, New Richmond, and their headstones survive. See next Z.1.3.6.

7. William Thomas: b 1812, in New Richmond, Quebec; m Julia Pritchard, daughter of Ralph Pritchard; d 1853. See next Z.1.3.7.

Z.1.3.1
GEORGE A. WILLETT and ELIZABETH PURCELL of New Richmond, Quebec

George A. Willett was born about 1799, in New Richmond, Quebec. He was raised on the old Willett farm on the Gaspe Coast. George Willett had a claim for land, in New Richmond, before the Gaspe Land Claims Commission in July, 1820. He is mentioned in the 1825 New Richmond census along with his father (William Willett), and his brother Willie.

He married Elizabeth Purcell. George owned a store on Ship's Point (east of Grand Cascapedia River) and the Governor General had a summer residence near the store. William Willett was mayor of New Richmond from 1860 to 1863, and Bailiff in 1871.

George Willett died on July 26, 1882, at the age of 83. A headstone to George Willett "was erected by B. W. Willett (his eldest son). It is still in existence in the Catholic Cemetery in New Richmond.

It is said that his wife was going up to the old camp in the winter time. There was a raging storm, and Jimmy Stewart was coming out and saw her. She was never seen again. Two years later, olf Pete Coull found a hair comb and (possibly) bones. This is supposedly how Elizabeth died.

1. Benjamin William: b 1837? m abt 1860 Nancy Duthrie. He is in the 1861 census. See next Z.1.3.1.1.

2. George: b abt 1838, in New Richmond, Quebec; m Dalhousie (woman); no issue.

3. James A: b 1839, in New Richmond, Quebec; m abt 1865 Mary Ann Le Geuf; d 1904. See next Z.1.3.1.3.

4. Hellen (Ellen): b 1842, in New Richmond, Quebec; m on November 9, 1852, Isaac Budd (b 1838); they are in the 1861 census; d before 1917. See next Z.1.3.1.4.

5. Elizabeth: b abt 1843, in New Richmond, Quebec; m William McRae; d before 1917.

Z.1.3.1.1

BENJAMIN WILLIAM WILLETT and NANCY DUTHRIE of New Richmond, Quebec

Benjamin William Willett was born about 1837. He married about 1860 Nancy Duthrie (b October 12, 1841; d August 16, 1938, in New Richmond), the daughter of Robert Duthrie and Letitia. He is in the 1861 census. They were Catholic. Benjamin died on May 26, 1914.

1. Stanley: b abt 1862; he married in the United States; resided on Long Island, New York.

    1. Roger: b abt 1885.

    2. Gordon: b abt 1887.

2. Manfred (Manny): b abt 1865; m Eunic Duthrie.

    1. Loretta:

    2. Rita:

3. Franklin: b March 26, 1870; he married about 1890 in the United States Barbara Wagner; resided in Plummer, Minnesota; visited her mother in New Richmond during the 1937 Christmas Season. See next Z.1.3.1.1.3.

4. Robert (Reggie) Oswald: b October 31, 1873; m November 21, 1906, Agnes McColm (b August 16, 1879; d August 22, 1968); Roman Catholic; d April 1, 1939, age 65 years, 5 months. Z.1.3.1.1.4.

5. Alma: b abt 1875; m Nick Ballum; of Brocton, Massachusetts.

    1. Gordon Ballum:

2. Philip Ballum:

6. Ida: b abt 1877; m 1st Thomas Foran; m 2d Richard Willett; of Montreal.

7. William Henry: b May 25, 1879; m August 16, 1904, Louise Margaret Steward (b September 5, 1881; d June 13, 1978); resided at New Richmond. See next Z.1.3.1.1.7.

8. Sybil: b abt 1879; married, in the United States, James William Stark; of Providence, Rhode Island.

1. Margaret Stark:

2. William Stark:

Z.1.3.1.1.3
FRANKLIN WILLETT and BARBARA MARY WAGNER of Minnesota

Franklin Willett was born on March 26, 1870, in New Richmond, Quebec. He married about 1890 in New Ulm, Minnesota, Barbara Wagner (February 20, 1885; August 6, 1957, age 71). They lived in Red Lake Falls, Red Lake County, Minnesota. Franklin Willett died on July 15, 1967, age 97.
(Genealogy of the Cascapedia Bay Loyalists 1784-1984, page 12).

1. Joseph Arnold: b July 12 1897; m June 17, 1948, Tecka Mary Williams (b January 15, 1929). Z.1.3.1.1.3.1.

2. Marcella Anna: b January 24, 1909, in St. Paul, Minnesota; m at Plummer, Minnesota, on January 20, 1940, Frank Onezime Toulouse (b December 2, 1901; d November 4, 1980). See next Z.1.3.1.1.3.2

3. Andrew Vincent: b June 15, 1910; m April 4, 1940, Gertrude Hanzell (b November 2, 1904). See next Z.1.3.1.1.3.3.

4. Constance Marie: b May 3, 1912; m November 15, 1947, Dan Driscoll (b August 27, 1897; d June 16, 1962), age 64).

1. Kathleen Mary Driscoll: m George Vanderloop.

2. Edwin Francis Driscoll:

5. Monica Dorothy: b January 14, 1914; m November 27, 1947, Joseph John Fallon (d August 26, 1917). See next Z.1.3.1.1.3.5.

6. Delores Agnes: b August 11, 1915; m October 18, 1934, Arthur H. Carlson (b September 7, 1901; d November 7, 1982).

1. Floyd Arthur Carlson: b October 21, 1934; m May 14, 1955, Carol Shaffroth.

7. Marietta Bridget: b October 6, 1917; m Clement Anton Johanneck (b April 18, 1916; d September 14, 1982). See next Z.1.3.1.1.3.7.

8. Rita Francis: b October 5, 1919; m November 15, 1941, Lionel Le Mere (b July 20, 1909). See next Z.1.3.1.1.3.8.

Z.1.3.1.1.3.1
JOSEPH ARNOLD WILLETT and TECKA MARY WILLIAMS of Minnesota

Joseph Arnold Willett was born on July 12 1897. He married on June 17, 1948, Teckla Mary Williams (b January 15, 1929).

1. James Arnold: b July 22, 1949.

    1. Jason Arnold:

2. Joyce Helen: b June 21, 1950; m June 26, 1971, Carl Edward Magers.

    1. Sarah Luclinda Magers: b January 3, 1971.

    2. Kimberly Jo Magers: b December 27, 1974.

3. Elizabeth Kay: b May 30, 1951; m December 17, 1977, Patrick K. Hamilton.

4. Susan Marlene: b July 20, 1953; m June 9, 1979, Gary Dale La Coursiere.

    1. Lori Lynn La Coursiere: b January 7, 1980.

    2. Lucas Dale La Coursiere: b January 4, 1981.

5. Arnold John: b June 25, 1955; m September 15, 1979, Fawn Rae Peters:

    1. Shannon Jermaine: b February 6, 1976.

    2. Dustin John: b February 4, 1981.

6. Thomas Joseph: b March 5, 1959; m September 6, 1980, Rebecca Mae Sorenson (b September 15, 1960).

    1. Tricia Yyonne: b January 16, 1981.

7. Daniel Charles: b March 12, 1960; m June 18, 1983, Shelley Olsen.

8. Douglas Alan: b May 26, 1962.

Z.1.3.1.1.3.2
MARCELLA ANNA WILLETT and FRANK ONEZIME TOULOUSE
of Plummer, Red Lake County, Minnesota

Marcella Anna Willett was born on January 24, 1909, in St. Paul, Minnesota. She married at Plummer, Red Lake County, Minnesota, on January 20, 1940, Frank Onezime Toulouse (b December 2, 1901; d November 4, 1980).

1. Mary Claire Toulouse: b October 19, 1940; d May 31, 1969.

2. Genevieve (Genny) Cecilia Toulouse: b February 15, 1942; m December 29, 1962, Steward A. Sand.

3. Catherine (Kitty) Ann Toulouse: b October 11, 1945; m June 15, 1974, Dale Parantala; resides in Las Vegas.

4. Louis Frank Toulouse: b January 29, 1948; m September 4, 1971, Mary Lee Musil.

5. Margaret Jeane Toulouse: b October 23, 1953.

Z.1.3.1.1.3.3
ANDREW VINCENT WILLETT and GERTRUDE HANZEL of Minnesota

Andrew Vincent Willett was born on June 15, 1910. He married on April 4, 1940, Gertrude Hanzell (b November 2, 1904).

1. Dean: b March 6, 1941; m September 14, 1963, Janelle.

    1. Leanne:

    2. David:

2. Constance: b February 3, 1943.

3. Barbara: b November 5, 1945; m August 12, 1978, Ralph Kalama.

Z.1.3.1.1.3.5
MONICA DOROTHY WILLETT and DAN DRISCOLL of Red Lake County, Minnesota

Monica Dorothy Willett was born on January 14, 1914, in Minnesota. She married on November 27, 1947, Joseph John Fallon (d August 26, 1917).

1. Thomas Jerome Fallon: b February 26, 1941; m November 27, 1966, Judith Mercil.

2. Joanne Linda Fallon: b November 2, 1948; m December 30, 1973, Thomas Musich.

3. David Michael Fallon: b January 17, 1950; m June 4, 1982, Sharon Johnson.

4. Beverly Elaine Fallon: b March 12, 1951.

5. Martin John Fallon: b May 12, 1952; m July 19, 1975, Shirley Ann Thomason.

6. Donald Paul Fallon: b March 30, 1953, Patsy Brule.

7. Bernard Vincent Fallon: b April 28, 1955; m September 17, 1977, Renee Genelle Eliason.

Z.1.3.1.1.3.7
MARIETTA BRIDGET WILLETT and CLEMENT ANTON of Red Lake County, Minnesota

Marietta Bridget Willett was born on October 6, 1917, in Minnesota. She married Clement Anton Johanneck (b April 18, 1916; d September 14, 1982).

1. Charles Johanneck: b January 15, 1942; m November 30, 1963, Gloria Jean Arel.

2. Marie Eileen Johanneck: b January 22, 1944; m October 8, 1966, Bernard Theordore Metsalaar.

3. Patricia Ann Johanneck: b June 22, 1946; m May 12, 1973, Ambrose Geisen.

4. Michael John Johanneck: b March 28, 1948; m Pam Bindiock.

5. Sharon Louise Johanneck: b July 20, 1949; m August 26, 1972, Robert Merkel.

6. Janice Rae Johanneck: b January 4, 1950; m December 26, 1981, Ben Scheuring.

7. Roger Paul Johanneck: b December 5, 1953; m May 10, 1980, Michele Getzin.

8. Theresa Lynn Johanneck: b May 21, 1956.

9. Barbara Mary Johanneck (adopted): b October 7, 1965.

Z.1.3.1.1.3.8
RITA FRANCIS WILLETT and LIONEL LE MERE of Minnesota

Rita Francis Willett was born on October 5, 1919, in Minnesota. She married on November 15, 1941, Lionel Le Mere (b July 20, 1909).

1. Gerald Charles LeMere: b October 22, 1943; m June 21, 1969, Jo Ann Ruth Fitzmurice.

2. Carol Rita LeMere: b June 1, 1947; m July 15, 1967, Edgar Allan Barnett.

3. Dianne Jeanne LeMere: b December 12, 1948.

4. Brian Vern LeMere: b November 5, 1951; m November 12, 1976, Donna Le LaMatter (b January 27, 1955).

5. Mariann Shirley LeMere: b August 15, 1956; m January 11, 1975, Richard Kapfenstein.

6. Arlene Monica LeMere: b June 29, 1959.

Z.1.3.1.1.4
ROBERT OSWALD WILLETT and AGNES MCCOLM of New Richmond, Quebec

Robert (Reggie) Oswald Willett was born on October 31, 1873. He married on November 21, 1906, Agnes McColm (b August 16, 1879; d August 22, 1968). They followed the Roman Catholic faith.

Robert Willett died on April 1, 1939. Both he and his wife are buried in the New Richmond Roman Catholic Cemetery.

(Genealogy of the Cascapedia Bay Loyalists 1784-1984, pages 12-13).

1. George Ormand: b October 20, 1907; m November 11, 1931, Albine Mary Cormier (b May 11, 1905; d 1980); of Dimock Creek near New Richmond. See next Z.1.3.1.1.4.1.

2. Ena Anna Cecila: b April 17, 1909; m April 15, 1939, William James Gordon (b June 16, 1889; d March 31, 1961); no issue; of Montreal.

3. Mary Sybil: b June 13, 1910; m August 8, 1932, John Jezni (b January 8, 1889; d February 23, 1960); of Montreal.

4. Elizabeth Elma: b January 16, 1912; m 1st June 1, 1935, Arthur Baillugeon (b February 17, 1900; d September 23, 1945); m 2d August 30, 1949, Lionel Deschenes (b January 11, 1909); of Montreal.

5. Benjamin Vincent: b February 17, 1913; m December 1, 1956, Mary Emilia Anna Gagne (b June 27, 1909); of New Richmond, Quebec; no issue; d August 8, 1984.

6. Robert Dalton: b November 20, 1914; m June 1, 1944, Dorothy Mae Cookman (b February 4, 1922).

    1. Cheryl Darlene: b July 12, 1944; m May 31, 1969, James Rawlings.

    2. Barry Ronald: b August 25, 1951; m June 9, 1973, Jeannie Parr.

7. Mary Corrine: b September 12, 1916.

8. Mary Francis: b April 7, 1918; m June 2, 1945, Walter Godbehere (b June 8, 1924).

9. Albert Roland: b October 11, 1921; of New Richmond.

Z.1.3.1.1.4.1
GEORGE ORMAND WILLETT and ALBINE MARY CORMIER of New Richmond, Quebec

George Ormand Willett was born on October 20, 1907, in New Richmond, Quebec. He married on November 11, 1931, Albine Mary Cormier (b May 11, 1905; d 1980). They resided on Dimock Creek near New Richmond, Quebec. Both are buried in the New Richmond Catholic Cemetery.

1. Mariecia Edris: b August 20, 1932; m August 25, 1956, Nicholas Maschak (b April 12, 1930).

2. Arnold Clayton: b June 12, 1934; m July 12, 1963, Gisela Erna Krah (b April 12, 1930).

3. Rudolph Joseph: b June 19, 1937; m October 28, 1965, Sheila Elsie Coull (b May 19, 1940?).

4. Doris Mona Janet: b February 25, 1940.

5. Gary Roy: b April 23, 1951.

Z.1.3.1.1.7
WILLIAM HENRY WILLETT and LOUISE MARGARET STEWARD of New Richmond, Quebec

William Henry Willett was born on May 25, 1879. He married on August 16, 1904, Louise Margaret Steward (b September 5, 1881; d June 13, 1978). He died on November 25, 1964. (Genealogy of the Cascapedia Bay Loyalists 1784-1984, page 13).

1. Rhoda Bernice: b March 23, 1905; unmarried.

2. Graydon Benjamin Vincent: b June 6, 1907, in Upper Canada; baptized October 21, 1907; m Mary Gregory; no children.

3. Steward Mitchell: b September 17, 1909; m August 31, 1931, Gertrude Warner (d December 28, 1968); d December 28, 1968.

4. Ivah Doris: b August 20, 1912; m Howard McLeod.

    1. Graden McLeod: m Beth Paterson.

    2. Audrey McLeod:

5. Stanley Spaulding: b July 27, 1915; m November 14, 1941, Mona Elizabeth Coull (b June 8, 1919).

    1. Diane: b abt 1943.

    2. Nancy: b abt 1945.

6. Niven Leonard: b March 5, 1917; m August 11, 1951, Margaret Florence Shirley Sinclair; d October 28, 1980.

    1. Glenda Jean: b September 8, 1952; m Donald Charles Attridge.

7. Grace Margaret: b December 7, 1918; m August 16, 1951, Edward (Ted) Briscoe.

8. Charles Barney: b August 18, 1921; m June 8, 1963, Frances Gwendolyn Borland (b November 10, 1926).

Z.1.3.1.3
JAMES A. WILLETT and MARY ANN LE GEUF of New Richmond, Quebec

James A. Willett was born 1839. He married about 1865 Mary Ann Le Geuf (b 1849; d 1939). Le Guef (also spelled Gouff, Le Geuf) used to be a common French name. He died in 1904. They are both buried in the New St. Jules Catholic Cemetery, Bonadventure County, Quebec. (Genealogy of the Cascapedia Bay Loyalists 1784-1984, page 5).

1. Benjamin V: b 1876 at New Richmond, Quebec; m about 1900 Louise Le Gauff; d 1967. See next Z.1.3.1.3.1.

2. Augustus (Gussie): b 1878; m abt 1900 Elizabeth (Lizzy) Ann Best (b 1879; d 1956); d 1956. See next Z.1.3.1.3.2.

3. Tina: b abt 1880; m Robert Duff.

    1. Clifford Duff:

    2. Revel Duff:

    3. Oneida Duff:

    4. Priscilla Duff:

4. Wilfred Gladwyn: b December 29, 1884; m November 18, 1918, Elsie Jane Mclellan (b 1894, d 1946); d April 1, 1972. See next Z.1.3.1.3.3.

5. Sarah (Sadie): b abt 1886; m Robert McNutt.

    1. Jean McNutt:

    2. John McNutt:

    3. Lambert McNutt:

    4. Joyce McNutt:

6. Isaac: b abt 1888; unmarried.

Z.1.3.1.3.1
BENJAMIN V. WILLETT and LOUISE LE GAUFF of New Richmond, Quebec

Benjamin V. Willett was born in 1876 in New Richmond, Bonadventure County, Quebec. He married about 1900 Louise Le Gouff. Benjamin V. Willett died in 1967. He is buried in the Catholic Cemetery, Bonadventure County, Quebec.
(Genealogy of the Cascapedia Bay Loyalists 1784-1984, page 5).

1. Robert Cullen (Collin, Collie): b October 24, 1902, in New Richmond; m abt 1925 Leona Le Gouffe. See next Z.1.3.1.3.2.1.

2. Wilfred Ambrose: b February 26, 1904; unmarried; d 1929; buried in St. Jules Catholic Cemetery, Bonadventure County, Quebec.

3. Joseph Garfield: b October 12, 1905, in New Richmond; m abt 1935 Florence Le Gouff.

1. Joseph Gary Rene: b August 28, 1946; d November, 1970, 24 years of age; buried in the New St. Jules Catholic Cemetery, Bonadenture County, Quebec.

5. Mary Ann Queenie: b February 24, 1907.

6. Josephine Viola: b October 2, 1909.

7. Mary Julia Elizabeth: b June 19, 1914; m Joe Le Blanc.

8. Frederick Leona Gerald: b May 9, 1916; m Lillian Jane Harrison.

1. Terry:

2. Tony:

3. Rudy:

4. Lance:

5. Judy:

9. Amy: b abt 1917.

Z.1.3.1.3.2.1
COLLIN WILLETT and LEORA LE GOUFF of New Richmond, Quebec

Collin Willett was born in 1903 in New Richmond. He married about 1925 Leora Le Gouff. Collin Willett is buried in the New St. Jules Catholic Cemetery, Bonadventure County, Quebec.

1. Revie Collin: b abt 1927; m Kay Duthrie; d 1977.

2. Caroline: b abt 1930; m Guy McNaughton.

3. Allan: b abt 1932; m Lois.

4. Gail: b abt 1935; m Charles Coull.

5. Sharon: b abt 1937.

6. Larry:

7. Jerry: m Andree Beaudin

1. Dominique:

2. Vicky:

8. Sandra:

9. Jimmy: (twin).

10. Judy: (twin).

11. Kevin:

Z.1.3.1.3.2
AUGUSTUS WILLETT and ELIZABETH ANN BEST of New Richmond, Quebec

Augustus (Gussie) Willett was born in 1878 in New Richmond, Quebec. He married about 1900 Elizabeth (Lizzy) Ann Best (b 1879; d 1956).

Augustus died in 1956. Both are buried in the New St. Jules Catholic Cemetery, Bonadventure County, Quebec.

1. Percy: b abt 1902.

2. Lillian: b abt 1903; m Lewis Le Gouff.

3. Edmund: b 1905; buried in the New St. Jules Catholic Cemetery, Bonadventure County, Quebec.

4. Lucy: b abt 1907.

Z.1.3.1.3.3
WILFRED WILLETT and ELSIE JANE MCLELLAN of New Richmond, Quebec

Wilfred Willett was born on December 29, 1884, in New Richmond, Quebec. He married on November 18, 1918, Elsie Jane McClellan (b 1894; d 1946). They lived in New Richmond, Quebec. Wilfred died in 1972. Both are buried at St. Andrew's Church Protestant Cemetry in New Richmond.

(Genealogy of the Cascapedia Bay Loyalists 1784-1984, page 11).

1. Wainwright (Wayne) Wilfred: b October 1, 1919; m January 17, 1949, Nancy Louise Campbell (b July 26, 1928); of New Richmond, Quebec. See next Z.1.3.1.3.3.1

2. Bainbridge Benjamin Gladwin: b August 22, 1922; died in January, 1945, during World war II at the Battle of the Bulge and is buried at Bastogne, Belgium.

Z.1.3.1.3.3.1
WAINWRIGHT WILFRED WILLETT and NANCY LOUISE CAMPBELL
of New Richmond, Quebec

Wainwright Wilfred Willett was born on October 10, 1919. He married on January 17, 1949, Nancy Louise Campbell (b July 26, 1928) of New Richmond. His current address is: P. O. Box 27; Richmond, PQ; Canada G0C 2B0. (Genealogy of the Cascapedia Bay Loyalists 1784-1984, pages 11, 200).

1. Michael Campbell: b March 27, 1950; m Marie Jocelyne Guite (b July 29, 1951).

    1. Jason Alexander: b December 19, 1978.

    2. Stephanie Louise: b August 17, 1982.

2. Bruce Nelson: b September 1, 1952.

Z.1.3.1.4
HELEN WILLETT and ISAAC BUDD of New Richmond, Quebec

Hellen (Ellen) Willett was born in 1842, in New Richmond, Quebec . She married on November 9, 1852, Isaac Budd (b 1838). They are in the 1861 census. She died before 1917.

1. John Budd: b abt 1853; m Isabel Doddridge.

2. William Budd: b abt 1855; m Christine Gilker.

3. Steve Budd: b abt 1857; m Nancy McWhirter.

4. Maggie Budd: b abt 1860; m John Gilker.

5. Sarah Budd: b abt 1862; m Joe Gilker.

6. Mary Budd: b abt 1865; m James Fallow.

7. Betsey Budd: b abt 1867; m Sandy McColm.

8. Alice Budd: b abt 1870; unmarried.

9. Clarence Budd: b abt 1872; unmarried.

Z.1.3.2
PETER BENJAMIN WILLETT and SARAH AHMILTON of New Richmond, Quebec

Peter Benjamin Willett was born on October 13, 1800. He married on February 11, 1833, Sarah Hamilton (b in Ireland in 1811). Ben and his brother, Willis, used to haul lumber out below Stilman Harrisons. After Willis died, Ben would take Willis' son, William (Billy), and the horse to haul, so that Billy could get a man's pay. They worked lumber, fished and farmed.

He was a Roman Catholic, and lived on a 50 acre farm in a frame dwelling in 1861. He died on September 15, 1870.

1. Sarah: b on December 4, 1834; m abt 1855 Edmund Joseph Gilker.

    1. Edmund Gilker: b abt 1856 m Matilda Watson.

    2. Henry Gilker: b abt 1857.

    3. William Gilker: b abt 1858.

    4. Franklin Gilker: b abt 1860.

    5. Sarah Gilker: b abt 1862.

    6. Joseph B. Gilker: b abt 1865.

    7. Rufus Gilker: b abt 1867.

    8. Ossie Gilker: b abt 1870.

    9. Ann Gilker: b abt 1872.

    10. Dorothy Gilker: b abt 1873.

2. Elizabeth: b on August 9, 1836; m abt 1856 Michael (Mick) Foran (b 1827, Roman Catholic).

    1. Sarah Ann Foran: b 1859; m John Robertson.

    2. Jack Foran: b abt 1860.

    3. Dick Foran: b abt 1862.

    4. Mary Foran; b abt 1865.

    5. Lucy Foran: b abt 1867.

3. Nancy: b 1838.

4. William: b September 11, 1840; bp September 20, 1840.

5. Henry D: b 1842.

6. Margaret D: b 1845.

7. Benjamin: b 1846.

8. Jane: b 1848; m abt 1870 John Richard McCormick Thorburn.

    1. Robert Sidney Thorburn: b abt 1872; m Louise Adella Doddridge.

    2. Eva Burton Thorburn: b abt 1875; m Colonel James Grant McKenzie.

    3. Sarah Alma Thorburn: b abt 1877; m Edward (Ned) Hardy.

    4. Anne May Thorburn: m William Archibald Spring.

    5. Edith Robina Henderson Thorburn: m Herbert Oliver Doddridge.

    6. Thomas Grant Thorburn:

    7. John Scott Thorburn: m 1st Marjorie Sparrow; m 2d Maxine Scism.

    8. Ella Lindsay Thorburn: m Edgar P. Le Marquand.

    9. Elsie Jane Thorburn: m 1st Irvin Edwards; m 2d Everett (Ed) Clarence Fallow.

    10. Henry Clinton: Thorburn

9. Catherine: b abt 1848 or 1850.

10. John: b 1852; m Anne Elizabeth Smith. Lived in the old homestead at Willett's Point. See next Z.1.3.2.10.

11. Mary: b on December 8, 1853, in Lower Canada; m on February 1, 1859, Alexander (Sandy) McColm (b June 29, 1828; d September, 1899). See next Z.1.3.2.11.

Z.1.3.2.10
JOHN WILLETT and ANNE ELIZA SMITH of New Richmond, Quebec

John Willett was born 1852. He married about 1875 Anne Elizabeth Smith (b 1859; d 1940). They lived on the old homestead farm on Willett's Point. Both are buried at St. Andrew's Church Protestant Cemetery, New Richmond, Quebec. Also, buried there are their children, Sa. A., Henry H., and W. T.

1. Sa. A: b 1880; m G. E. M; d in the 1950s.

2. Benny (Ben): b February 21, 1882, Upper Canada.

3. William Thomas (Tommy): b February 10, 1884; m 1st in New York City; m 2d Nelson.

4. Henry Howard: b April 7, 1886; inherited the old homestead; d 1956.

5. Isabella: b November 5, 1888; d August 5, 1906.

6. Florence Ruby: b January 7, 1891; d.y.

7. Olive: b May 21, 1893; m Harry Brokaw (Bradshaw) Smith of 676 West 8th Street, Plainfield, New Jersey. She wrote a tour book describing the Gaspe Coast, Gaspe the Romanique.

8. Annie: b abt 1895; m George Moore.

9. John Clifton: b March 3, 1896; d May 13, 1898.

Z.1.3.2.11
MARY WILLETT and ALEXANDER MCCOLM of New Richmond, Quebec

Mary Willett was born on December 8, 1853, in Lower Canada (New Richmond, Quebec). She married on February 1, 1859, Alexander (Sandy) McColm (b June 29, 1828; d September, 1899).

She used to be visited by her 1st cousin, Alexander Willett (Z.1.3.5.4), quite often. He had an amazing memory and would relate the stories of the Willett family from William Willett and Mary Gilker. Mary (Willett) McColm told these stories to her grandson, Alex Brown, who also had an amazing memory and is the source for much of the outline of the New Richmond Willett families. She died on January 6, 1931.

1. Sarah McColm: b abt 1860; Charles Null.

2. Margaret McColm: b abt 1862; m Robert William Hardy.

3. Mary McColm: b abt 1865; d.y.

4. Christine McColm: b abt 1867; m Walter Turner.

5. Kate McColm: b abt 1870; m Bill Brown.

6. John McColm: b abt 1872; m 1st Margaret Grace Dickie; m 2d Elizabeth Willett.

7. Elizabeth McColm: b abt 1875; m Duncan Fletcher.

8. David Alexander McColm: b abt 1877; m Ella Jane Dea.

9. Agnes McColm: b abt 1878; m Robert Oswald Willett.

Z.1.3.3
JOHN WILLETT and NANCY PRITCHARD of New Richmond on the Gaspe Coast

John Willett was born in 1801, in New Richmond, Quebec. He married about 1830 Nancy Pritchard. John lived on 50 acres beside his brother, William Thomas Willett.

1. Mary Ann: b 1842 probably born in New Richmond.

2. Sarah: b 1844 probably born in New Richmond.

3. Christian: b 1852 probably born in New Richmond.

Z.1.3.4
JAMES W. WILLETT and AGNES MCCLELLAN of New Richmond, Quebec

James W. Willett was born in 1807 in New Richmond, Quebec. He married on October 1, 1830, Agnes McClellan (b 1811, d February 25, 1879, age 68, of consumption). He was an inspector of roads.

Most dates of this family come from Susan (Willett) Barter's family Bible. Some of the dates do not agree with the information as recorded in the 1861 census.

He died on September 11, 1879, at the age of 72, of consumption (i.e., tuberculosis).

(Bookstaver, 76; Genealogy of the Cascapedia Bay Loyalists 1784-1984, pages 80-81).

1. William: b December 10, 1830; m July 29, 1861, Betsey Mclellan (b August 4, 1833; d February 13, 1921); d May 18, 1900.

    1. James Willaby: b May 16, 1862; died young.

2. John: b September 24, 1832; m 1st abt 1855, Mary Ann Foran (b 1838; d July 3, 1874); m 2d abt 1875 Betsey Hamilton; d October 31, 1911. See next Z.1.3.4.2.

3. Thomas (Tom): b September 4, 1834; m July 26, 1858, Mary Foran (b 1834; d November 23, 1906, or November 28, 1907); d August 12, 1912. See next Z.1.3.4.3.

4. James: b October 1, 1836; m October 24, 1865, Elizabeth Duthrie (b 1844). See next Z.1.3.4.4.

5. Agnes: b November 3, 1838; m abt 1860 Daniel Pidgeon (b 1847; d March 19, 1889); d May 2, 1925.

    1. David Bogue Pidgeon: b May 25, 1861; m Edna (Birdie) Duthrie (b February 7, 1869; d July 13, 1931); d January, 1944.

6. Elizabeth (Betsy): b 1839; m William Mcllellan.

7. Alexander: b March 15, 1841; m February 17, 1869, Susan Barter (b June 30, 1846; d January 17, 1925, age 78 years); Alexander died April 22, 1928. A head stone survives. See next Z.1.3.4.7.

8. Robert Boyd: b February 12, 1843; m August 16, 1882, Sarah Ellen Dimock (b January 5, 1856; d April 24, 1916); d August 16, 1919. A tombstone survives in the Protestant Cemetery; evidently it is his son J. Sydney Willett (b 1883, d 1949) who is buried beside them. See next Z.1.3.4.8.

9. George: b December 2, 1845; m abt 1865 Isabella Gilker.

1. Marion Geraldine: b abt 1870.

10. Stephen: b 1848; lost to the family; believed to have gone to the "lower 48."

Z.1.3.4.1
JOHN WILLETT of New Richmond, Quebec

John Willett was born September 24, 1832. He married 1st abt 1855 Mary Ann Foran (b 1838; d July 3, 1874). He married 2d abt 1875 Betsey Harrison.

He died on February 31, 1911. (Genealogy of the Cascapedia Bay Loyalists 1784-1984, pages 81-82).

1. Agnes: b February 14, 1858; d July 27, 1858.

2. James: b 1859; m Kate O'Hearne; removed to Alpena, Michigan.

3. Tommy Alexander: b May 4, 1860; unmarried; d September 9, 1881.

4. John: b February 7, 1859; m Marie (Minnie) St. Onge (b 1859; d September 15, 1953); d January 6, 1925. See next Z.1.3.4.1.4.

5. William Henry: b September 8, 1863; m September 28, 1886, Charlotte Hamilton Willett (b May 28, 1867); d July 6, 1935. See next Z.1.3.4.1.5.

6. Malvina Margaret: b January 2, 1865; d January 17, 1865.

7. Mary Elizabeth (Lizzie) Ann: b April 11, 1868; m abt 1890 John (Jack) Sexton (b May, 1858; d September 4, 1933); d July 12, 1948.

1. Wilfred Foran: unmarried.

2. Gertrude Foran: m John Carroll.

3. Edward Foran: m Winnifred Gertrude Campbell.

4. Rita Foran:

5. John Vincent Foran:

6. Catherine Elizabeth Foran: m Donat Allain.

7. Theresa Irene Foran: m Augustine (Gus) St. Onge.

8. Mary Ellen Foran: m Ben Ramsey.

8. Marquerite Mina: b March 25, 1870; m abt 1890 Parley Hill.

1. Alta Hill:

2. Gerald Hill:

9. Robert Boyd: b May 20, 1872; m August 13, 1906, Margaret Laura Carroll; d January 4, 1938. See next Z.1.3.4.1.9.

10. Richard Foran: b July 29, 1874; m Ida Anne (Willett) Foran (bp December 23, 1877), the widow of Mike Foran; d February 8, 1922. See next Z.1.3.4.1.10.

11. Stilman (Honore): b May 14, 1876; also known as Honore'; unmarried; d June 8, 1957.

12. Francis (Walter): unmarried; removed to Michigan.

13. Mabel: died young.

14. Helena Ida: b April 13, 1878; m 1st Odine Cyr; m 2d James Henderson; d November 29, 1963.

1. Carol Andrew Cyr: b April 6, 1909; m Brenda Catherine Willett (b July 28, 1914).

15. David Allen: b June 27, 1880; m December 18, 1916, Angeline Myrtle Steward (July 22, 1888; d July 3, 1965); d April 18, 1953. See next Z.1.3.4.1.15.

16. George Edson: b December 21, 1884; m November 22, 1909, Margaret Anne Le Gouffe (b October 24, 1888; d December 3, 1983); d July 27, 1931. See next Z.1.3.4.1.16.

17. Vincent: b November 11, 1885; m December 15, 1918, Ethel Mary Martin (b April 6 or 7, 1894; d May 19, 1958); d May 23, 1957. See next Z.1.3.4.1.17.

18. Rufus David: b 1889; m 1920 Ida Carroll (b 1892; d June 29, 1979, age 87); d October 16, 1954. See next Z.1.3.4.1.18.

19. Mary Emma Jane: b October 18, 1882; m Albert Roberts; d 1908 at age 26 in childbirth.

20. Agnes Mabel: b July 23, 1892, m November 25, 1913, Henry Thomas (Tom) McWhirter (b March 21, 1887; d June 2, 1977); d March 10, 1972.

1. Anna Emma McWhirter: b November 14, 1917; m Sheldon Willett (b April 26, 1917).

2. Addie Ellen McWhirter: b July 10, 1927; m Otis Willett (b March 20, 1924).

3. Vincent Thomas McWhirter: unmarried.

4. Archie Roy McWhirter:

21. Alta Lillian: b November 4, 1894; m September 20, 1914, Eric Burton (b April 17, 1893); d June 4, 1964.

1. Cecil Roy Burton: m Kathleen (Kay) Elizabeth McLean.

2. Elmer Lyman Burton: m Marion Burton Salter.

3. Clifford Scott Burton: m Ilda Anita McWhirter.

4. Allen Burton: stillborn February 2, 1916.

Z.1.3.4.1.3
JOHN WILLETT and MARIE ST. ONGE of New Richmond, Canada

John Willett was born on February 7, 1859. He married about 1886 Marie (Minnie) St. Onge (b 1859; d September 15, 1953). He died on January 6, 1925. His tombstone gives his birth date as October, 1862. Both are buried in the New St. Jules Catholic Cemetery, Bonadventure County, Quebec.
(Genealogy of the Cascapedia Bay Loyalists 1784-1984, pages 86-87).

1. Margaret Emily: b April 25, 1887; m June 9, 1908, Erwin Bujold (b 1880; d May 1, 1969); d May 15, 1973. Both are buried in the New St. Jules Catholic Cemetery, Bonadventure County, Quebec.

1. William Edgar Bujold: b abt 1910.

2. Marie Catherine Bujold: b abt 1912.

3. Margaret Lydia Bujold: b abt 1915.

4. Marie Eva Bujold: b abt 1917.

5. Dorothy Bujold: b abt 1920.

6. Jimmy Bujold: b abt 1922; m Thelma Gilker.

7. William Ervin Bujold: b abt 1924.

8. John Wesley Bujold: b abt 1926; d in infancy on March 26, 1926.

9. Freddie Bujold: b abt 1928.

10. Mattie Bujold: b abt 1930.

2. Agnes Malvina (Mina): b July 23, 1888; m Lewis Randall.

3. Mary Lucy: bp March 20, 1890, m Otto Stephen George of Barrie, Vermont.

1. Elwin George: m Fleurette Hamel.

2. Rupert George: m Glenna Gallison.

3. Russell George: m Sylvia Gordon.

4. Vernon George: m Pauline Pilette.

5. Gwendolyn George: m Silvio Paquet.

6. Faye George: m Edmond Berube.

7. Ramona George: m David Boulanger.

8. Donald George: m Alita Rubalcaba.

4. Francis Edward: b May 18, 1894.

5. Jean Baptiste St. Onge: bp December 30, 1896.

6. Mary Ester: b February 7, 1894; m April 7, 1922, Archie Cormier (b October 30, 1883; d March 31, 1947); d June 10, 1958.

1. Marie Lucy Cormier: m Reginald James Harrison.

2. Amelia Agnes (Ingnes) Cormier: m George Wallace McRae.

3. Philip Joseph (Tippy) Cormier: m Alta Ethel Campbell.

4. Mary Margaret Cormier: m Edgar James Brash.

5. Mary Doris Cormier: d in infancy.

6. Mary Ann Olive Cormier: m Henry Novack.

7. Francais Irene Cormier: m Bert Syvert.

8. Helen Mary Cormier: m Weldon Carl Harrison.

9. Julia Elizabeth Ruth Cormier: m Arthur Joseph Tapp.

10. Maxwell Joseph Cormier: m Anita Langlois.

7. Marie Anne: bp July, 1895; m January 9, 1906, Peter Dumas; d September 25, 1970.

8. John Matthew (Matte): b December 30, 1896; m September 11, 1917, Effie Amy Lodella Harrison (b July 16, 1902). See next Z.1.3.4.1.3.2.

9. Marguerite (Nina) Anne: b July 4, 1898; m 1st Vincent Peter Hall (b January 16, 1890; d November 10, 1943); m 2d abt 1933 George Ellis Robertson (b March 12, 1896; d 1982).

1. Catherine Lillian Hall: m Francais Milton Foran.

2. William (Bill) John Joseph Hall: m Mary Norah McColm.

3. Vincent Hall: m Ida Robertson Harrison.

4. Marie Hall: m 1st Alex Nellis; m 2d Norman Sexton.

5. Mary Alice Theresa Hall: m John Walker.

6. Mary Lorraine Hall: m Charles Hall.

7. Arvil Hall: m Opal Casey.

8. James Raynold Hall (twin): m Eileen Meredith.

9. Joseph Richard Hall (twin): m Dorothy Fallow.

10. Irby Francais Hall:

10. William Alexander: b September 13, 1900; d January 24, 1906.

11. Walter Francais: b March 1, 1902; m June 26, 1927, Martha Peterson (b March 25, 1903); d December 16, 1965. See next Z.1.3.4.1.3.11.

12. Richard Lawrence: b October 1, 1903; m November 23, 1936, Gertrude Adella Lynd (b January 20, 1912); d December 5, 1980. See next Z.1.3.4.1.3.12.

13. James (Jimmy): m Marqueritte Furlotte. (Genealogy of the Cascapedia Bay Loyalists 1784-1984, page 109).

1. May Lorna: b July 12, 1931.

2. Mary Lyda: b August 15, 1933.

3. Ivy Elizabeth: bp September 23, 1934.

14. Emma Jane: b November 10, 1905; m Joseph M. Raynold Fallow (b June 18, 1907; d March 29, 1971); d December 12, 1975.

15. Mary Lydia: b November 22, 1907; m Robert James Martin (b 1893; d 1965); d February 16, 1979.

16. Mary Isabella (Bella): m February 19, 1912, Napolean Paul Cyr.

1. Dorothy Cyr:

2. Margarite Cyr:

3. Francis (daughter) Cyr:

4. John Cyr:

5. Bill Cyr:

17. Philip: m September 17, 1918, Annie Amy Le Gouffe. (Genealogy of the Cascapedia Bay Loyalists 1784-1984, pages 108-109).

1. Louis Arthur: b September 21, 1922; m May 29, 1947, Ann Arleen Furlong.

2. Amy Welda: b December 22, 1924; m February 3, 1945, John William F. Dion.

3. Robert Alexander: b September 13, 1927; m May 26, 1951, Ellen Patricia Briggs.

4. Bernice Elizabeth Iona: b July 25, 1930; m March 30, 1951, John Angus McKinnon.

5. Margaret Patricia Helena: b March 17, 1935; m October 29, 1955, Kenneth Percival.

Z.1.3.4.1.3.8
JOHN MATTHEW WILLETT and AMY HARRISON of New Richmond, Quebec

John Matthew (Matte) Willett was born on December 30, 1896. He married on September 11, 1917, Ettie Amy Lodella Harrison (b July 16, 1902). (Genealogy of the Cascapedia Bay Loyalists 1784-1984, pages 103-104).

1. John Sydney Harrison: b November 10, 1918, in New Richmond; m Winnifred Walker; d December 26, 1974; resided at 22 Robertson Road, Elliot Lake, Ontario, Canada. See next Z.1.3.4.1.3.8.

2. Otis Alexander (twin): b March 20, 1924, in New Richmond; m November 26, 1947, Addie Ellen McWhirter (b July 10, 1927); worked in the mine in Val d' Or; d November 27, 1982. See next Z.1.3.4.1.3.8.

3. Grant Frank (twin): b March 20, 1924, in New Richmond; m Mary Alice Georgette Lemire. (Genealogy of the Cascapedia Bay Loyalists 1784-1984, pages 142-143).

1. Matthew (Mattie): m Arthur Willett.

2. Susan (Susie):

3. Michael:

4. Bonnie:

5. Allan:

6. Gary:

7. Mark:

4. Eva Mary: b April 13, 1926; m August 3, 1948, William (Bill) Hector Hardy (b February 17, 1924).

1. Donald William Hardy: b October 1, 1949; m Jeannie Marie Kiehut (b September 23 1951).

2. Gordon Wilfred Hardy: b October 10, 1951.

3. James Thomas Hardy: b May 16, 1954.

4. Robert Keith Hardy: b June 16, 1957.

5. Sandy Eve Hardy: b January 7, 1959.

6. Cheryl Ann Hardy: b September 15, 1960.

7. Karen Lynn Hardy: b January 1, 1963.

8. Darren Bryan Hardy: b January 14, 1967.

5. James Richard Cleveland: b October 9, 1928; m September 16, 1950, Elsie May Coffin (b January 1, 1933). (Genealogy of the Cascapedia Bay Loyalists 1784-1984, page 144).

1. Kerry Cleveland: b August 25, 1951.

2. Richard Allan: b December 6, 1952.

3. Donald James: b December 29, 1960.

6. Elva Jean: b October 9, 1930; m James Donald Campbell.

1. Judith Ann Campbell: b March 15, 1950; m Douglas Gareau (b August 28, 1949); resides Elliot Lake, Ontario.

7. Bertha M. Anita: b February 6, 1933; m July 20, 1961, Allan Ketterling.

1. James Allen Ketterling: b April 4, 1963.

2. Randall Matthew Ketterling: b January 17, 1965.

3. Jarrett Michael Ketterling: b December 15, 1966 or 1967.

4. Bradley David Ketterling: b October 10, 1968.

5. Andrea Lea Ketterling: b October 11, 1971.

8. Helen Emma: b April 21, 1936; m July 20, 1957, Lorne Houston.

1. Collen Houston:

2. Peggy Houston:

3. Cynthia Houston:

9. Matthew Hedley: b June 12, 1936; m Carol Fincher. (Genealogy of the Cascapedia Bay Loyalists 1784-1984, page 144).

1. Janice:

2. Hedley Keith:

3. Bradley:

4. Terry:

10. James Allister: b August 2, 1943; m October 31, 1964, Margaret Grant. (Genealogy of the Cascapedia Bay Loyalists 1784-1984, page 144).

1. Karen Amy: b July 18, 1965.

2. Dean Grant: b July 20, 1968.

3. Laurie Anne: b October 18, 1972.

11. Winston Raymond: b January 7, 1946; m August 5, 1967, Paula; no children.

Z.1.3.4.1.3.8.1
JOHN SYDNEY WILLETT and WINNIFRED WALKER of Ontario, Canada

John Sydney Harrison Willett was born on November 10, 1918, in New Richmond. He married about 1940 Winnifred Walker; d December 26, 1974.

They removed to 22 Robertson Road, Elliot Lake, Ontario, Canada. (Genealogy of the Cascapedia Bay Loyalists 1784-1984, page 142).

1. Elwin: m Eldreda.

1. David:

2. Alethia:

3. Faye:

2. Edna:

3. Pat:

4. Linda (twin):

5. Glenda (twin):

6. Ray:

7. Gregg:

Z.1.3.4.1.3.8.2
OTIS ALEXANDER WILLETT and ADDIE ELLEN MCWHIRTER of New Richmond, Quebec

Otis Alexander Willett was born on March 20, 1924, in New Richmond. He was a twin. He married on November 26, 1947, Addie Ellen McWhirter (b July 10, 1927).

Otis Alexander Willett worked in the mine in Val d' Or. He died on November 27, 1982. (Genealogy of the Cascapedia Bay Loyalists 1784-1984, page 143).

1. Diane Dorothy: b March 31, 1948; m October 21, 1967, Leo Wendall Allen.

    1. Amanda (Mandy) Dawn Allen: b May 27, 1972.

2. June Carol: b June 27, 1950; m September 1, 1979, Dennis Justin Boisvert.

    1. Pamela Boisvert: b April 15, 1981.

3. Danny Dennis: b November 20, 1954; m October 11, 1980, Cindy Gallagher.

Z.1.3.4.1.3.9
RICHARD FORAN WILLETT and Mrs. IDA WILLETT FORAN of Canada

Richard Foran Willett was born on July 2, 1874. He married about 1895 Ida Willett Foran, the widow of Mike Foran. (Genealogy of the Cascapedia Bay Loyalists 1784-1984, page 90).

1. Leona: b abt 1897; m Lyons.

2. Richard: b abt 1899.

3. Bernice: b abt 1901; m Oliver.

Z.1.3.4.1.3.11
WALTER FRANCIS WILLETT and MARTHA PETERSON of New Richmond, Quebec

Walter Francais Willett was born on March 1, 1902. He married on June 26, 1927, Martha Peterson (b March 25, 1903). He died on December 16, 1965, and is buried in the New St. Jules Catholic Cemetery, Bonadventure County, Quebec.
(Genealogy of the Cascapedia Bay Loyalists 1784-1984, pages 105-106).

1. Mary Margaret: bp June 2, 1925; d June 16, 1952; buried in the New St. Jules Catholic Cemetery, Bonadventure County, Quebec. (Genealogy of the Cascapedia Bay Loyalists 1784-1984, page 147).

2. Elizabeth: bp June 30, 1926; m Rene (Ray) Trudeau.

    1. Robert Trudeau:

    2. Brian Trudeau:

3. George Alexander: b January 19, 1928; m June 24, 1959, Catherine Fortune. (Genealogy of the Cascapedia Bay Loyalists 1784-1984, page 147).

    1. Margaret Mae: b October 11, 1950

    2. Shirley Elizabeth: b February 14, 1954; m 1973 Gary Currin.

    3. Walter Angus: b March 15, 1955.

    4. John Charles: b April 27, 1960.

    5. George Alexander: b August 16, 1962.

    6. Jeanette Ann: b November 18, 1966.

4. John Francais: b April 29, 1929; unmarried.

5. Kenny Alexander Cyrille: b February 28, 1932; m Donna Anne Duthrie (b December 13, 1937). (Genealogy of the Cascapedia Bay Loyalists 1784-1984, page 147).

    1. Kerry Ann: b August 12, 1957; m Audie Beaudin.

    2. Sandra Lee: b November 4, 1958; m Danny Dugas.

        1. Corey Shawn Dugas: b November 28, 1979.

    3. Patricia Lynne: b January 26, 1962; m James McDonald (b August 25, 1942).

        1. Cynthia McDonald:

    4. Donna Ann: b February 23, 1968.

6. Barbara Rita: bp 1933; m Charles C. McNaughton.

1. Bruce McNaughton: b April 5, 1960.

2. Deborah Ann McNaughton: b March 17, 1959; m William Argyres (b Jul 2, 1955).

3. Cynthia Lee McNaughton: b February 6, 1963.

7. Mary Eleanor Ramona: bp January 9, 1935; m July 14, 1956, Lorne James Cahill.

1. James Arthur Cahill: b June 15, 1958.

2. Susan Eleanor Cahill: b September 9, 1959; m Mark Ames.

3. Ronald Joseph Cahill: b March 27, 1961.

4. Mary Darlene Cahill: b June 15, 1965.

5. Karen Elaine Cahill: b May 15, 1970.

8. Harold Charles: bp May 30, 1937; m Lorriane Sehraden (b December 10, 1939).

1. Cindy Lee: b January 5, 1959; m Gordon Hudson (b September 14, 1954).

1. Tarris Lee Hudson: b May 15, 1970.

2. Lenny Harold: b August 3, 1960.

3. Dana Dean: b December 18, 1963.

4. Lorilee Ann: b September 25, 1970.

9. Norman James: b August 18, 1942; m August 30, 1968, Judith Elva Cochrane (b December 8, 1947). (Genealogy of the Cascapedia Bay Loyalists 1784-1984, page 148).

1. Charles Walter: b July 22, 1970.

2. (son): b and d August 22, 1973.

3. Troy Norman: b October 15, 1975.

10. Gerald Peter: b June 16, 1946.

Z.1.3.4.1.3.12

RICHARD LAWRENCE WILLETT and GERTRUDE ADELLE LYND of New Richmond, Quebec

Richard Lawrence Willett was born on October 1, 1903. He married on November 23, 1936, Adela Lynd (b January 20, 1912). He died on December 5, 1980. They resided in New Richmond, Quebec. Both are buried in the New St. Jules Catholic Cemetery, Bonadventure County, Quebec. (Genealogy of the Cascapedia Bay Loyalists 1784-1984, pages 106-107).

1. Shirley Marie: b May 11, 1937; m James Allan (b April 19, 1939).

    1. Patricia Marie Allen: b February 20, 1961.

    2. Debra Anne:

2. William Ronald John: b May 12, 1938; m 1st Pauline; m 2d Eileen McCoy. (Genealogy of the Cascapedia Bay Loyalists 1784-1984, page 148).

    1. William John: b August 15, 1958.

    2. Claudette: b October 8, 1960.

    3. Rickie: b October 2, 1962.

3. Gloria Dorothy: b June 14, 1939; m November 24, 1960, John Byers Harrison (b October 18, 1937).

    1. Roderick John Harrison: b April 22, 1964.

    2. Kimberley Adele Harrison: b June 1, 1968.

    3. Glen Derek Harrison: b December 9, 1970.

4. Eleanor Fay: b June 23, 1940; d July 23, 1940.

5. Elaine Patricia: b July 20, 1941; m 1st 1963 Ronnie Wilson; no children; m 2d Hugh McDade; no children.

6. Constance (Connie) Emily: b July 7, 1945; m July 11, 1964, Everett Fairservice (b July 10, 1941).

    1. Anthony Evertt Fairservice: b November 19, 1973.

    2. Gordie Jason Fairservice: b March 12, 1975.

    3. Trudy Lynd Fairservice: b July 21, 1980.

Z.1.3.4.1.4
WILLIAM HENRY WILLETT and CHARLOTTE WILLETT of New Richmond, Quebec

William Henry Willett was born on September 8, 1863. He married on September 28, 1886, Charlotte Willett (b May 28, 1867). He died on July 6, 1935. (Genealogy of the Cascapedia Bay Loyalists 1784-1984, page 98).

1. Helen (Nellie) Florence: b April 9, 1887, in Upper Canada.

2. Elizabeth (Lizzie) Ann: b April 17, 1889; m Jack McColm (b September 19, 1870; d February 1, 1954).

3. Eva May: b October 9, 1890; m Romley Graves (d January, 1981).

4. Eda (Addie) Hatton: b July 4, 1892; d 1912.

5. Robert Miles: b March 12, 1894; m December 9, 1922, May Edith Coull (b April 29, 1903); d July 6, 1955. See next Z.1.3.4.1.4.5.

6. William Harvey: b September 24, 1895; married, no issue.

7. Sarah Wilda: b August 13, 1898; m Ernest Peacock.

    1. Robert Peacock:

8. James Douglas: b April 15, 1900; m December 9, 1922, Marjorie Isobel McWhirter (b April 29, 1903); d August 6, 1971. See next Z.1.3.4.1.4.8.

9. Frank Leslie: b January 26, 1902; m Myrtle? d 1966.

    1. Frank, Jr: of Box 1015 Innisfall, Alberta.

    2. Darcy: of 131 Dundee Crescent, Penhold, Alberta.

10. Luther Hedley: b December 22, 1903; resided in the United States; d 1981.

11. Lawrence (Lorne) Norman: b August 31, 1905; m Annie Sophie Peterson. See next Z.1.3.4.1.4.12.

12. Alonzo Jarvis: b January 13, 1908; d February 12, 1919.

Z.1.3.4.1.4.5
ROBERT MILES WILLETT and EDITH MAY COULL of New Richmond, Quebec

Robert Miles Willett was born on March 12, 1894. He married on December 9, 1922, May Edith Coull (b 1893; d 1976). He died on July 6, 1955. Both are buried in St. Andrew's Church Protestant Cemetery, New Richmond. (Genealogy of the Cascapedia Bay Loyalists 1784-1984, page 128).

1. Leora Geneva: b September 13, 1918; m Richard James Anderson.

1. Richard Ryan Anderson:

2. Douglas Myles Anderson:

2. Evelyn Adeline: b May 19, 1920; m December 14, 1953, Daniel Taylor.

1. Alan Joseph Taylor: m Beverly Milton.

2. Kathleen May Taylor: m Marty Kempt.

3. Joan Edith: b May 14, 1925.

4. Kathleen Charlotte: b December 24, 1926; m July 8, 1980, Malcom Baird.

5. Peggy Elizabeth: b November, 27, 1933; m June 25, 1955, Charles Mansfield Stewart (b October 25, 1926).

1. Angela Charmane Stewart: b July 6, 1957.

2. William Ryan Stewart: b April 19, 1962.

3. Charles Glenburnie Stewart: b July 8, 1970.

Z.1.3.4.1.4.8
JAMES DOUGLAS WILLETT and MARJORIE MCWHIRTER of New Richmond, Quebec

James Douglas Willett was born on April 15, 1900. He married on December 9, 1922, Marjorie Isobel McWhirter (b April 29, 1903). He died on August 6, 1971. (Genealogy of the Cascapedia Bay Loyalists 1784-1984, page 129).

1. Douglas Alonzo: b May 27, 1923; m Marjorie Sweetman (b May 14, 1928). See next Z.1.3.4.1.4.8.1.

2. Gwendolyn Elizabeth: b November 5, 1924; m March 22, 1942, Theodore Eugene Bujold (b June 9, 1922; d December 12, 1971).

1. John Roger Bujold: b October 11, 1943; m Phyllis Anne Comeau.

2. Judith Marjorie Bujold: b May 8, 1946; m D. E. B. Kynchenko.

3. Diane Louise Bujold: b October 17, 1947; m Paul Leon Comeau.

4. Sandra Helen Bujold: b April 2, 1949; m Simon Mawas.

5. Ronald Theodore Bujold: b August 5, 1951; m Alva Marie Hickey.

6. James Richard Bujold: b October 25, 1956; d February 19, 1965.

3. Sylvia Addie: b December 20, 1925; m April 24, 1944, Jacob Swatsky (b November 12, 1918).

1. Carol Louise Swatsky: b January 11, 1945; m Albert Anton Agerbak.

2. Robert James Swatsky: b December 2, 1947; m Linda Joyce Nelson.

4. Archibald McWhirter: b August 17, 1929; m April 7, 1955, Elsie Marina Barter (b August 16, 1934). (Genealogy of the Cascapedia Bay Loyalists 1784-1984, page 159).

1. Michael Archie: b September 14, 1958.

2. Wendy Grace: b May 27, 1960.

5. Helen Olive: b November 2, 1930; m June 15, 1951, Cecil Lloyd Loney (b March 21, 1930).

1. Sharon Lee Loney: b May 31, 1953; m David Peter George Doerkson.

2. Timothy Lloyd Loney: b August 29, 1957.

3. Judy Ann Loney:

6. Merle James: b April 3, 1933; m September 24, 1955, Barbara Joan Sharp (b July 4, 1937).

1. Barbara Ann: b September 22, 1956.

2. Gary Kenneth: b January 6, 1958.

3. Ronald George (twin): b March 25, 1961.

4. Donald James (twin): b March 25, 1961.

7. Diane Louise: b October 3, 1939; m August 28, 1965, Kenny Clifford Philips (b April 15, 1940).

Z.1.3.4.1.4.8.1
DOUGLAS ALONZO WILLETT and MARJORIE SWEETMAN of Quebec

Douglas Alonzo Willett was born on May 27, 1923, in New Richmond, Quebec. He married Marjorie Sweetman (b May 14, 1928). (Genealogy of the Cascapedia Bay Loyalists 1784-1984, page 157).

1. Patricia Elizabeth: b January 31, 1948; m November 1, 1969, Robert Williams (b February 4, 1944).

1. Jennifer Lisa Williams: b January 24, 1973.

2. Paul Matthew Williams: b April 9, 1974.

2. James Douglas: b September 10, 1950; m October 8, 1976, Maureen Dowd (b June 8, 1944).

1. Natalie Veronica: b May 13, 1973.

2. Allison Dowd: b April 9, 1974.

3. Nancy Christine: b March 25, 1953; m George Dzura.

1. David George Dzura: b July 29, 1978.

2. Andrew John Dzura: b April 10, 1980.

4. Philip Herbert: b September 1, 1957.

5. Daniel Kevin: b September 17, 1958.

6. Thomas William: b November 27, 1959.

7. Sylvia Jean: b January 24, 1963.

8. Susan May: b July 22, 1964.

9. Paul Andrew: b May 10, 1969.

Z.1.3.4.1.4.12
LAWRENCE NORMAN WILLETT and ANNIE SOPHIA PETERSON of Canada

Lawrence Norman Willett was born on August 31, 1905, in New Richmond. He married Annie Sophia Peterson. They moved, possibly, out to western Canada. (Genealogy of the Cascapedia Bay Loyalists 1784-1984, page 129).

1. Frank Lawrence: b February 2, 1926; resides in Alberta.

2. Addie Hattie: b February 9, 1929; d February 13, 1929.

3. Charlotte Margaret: b October 22, 1931; d August 24, 1941.

4. Bert Spencer: b October 24, 1932; resides in Alberta.

5. Catherine Elizabeth: b July 19, 1935; m abt 1960 Allan Hanson Budd (b July 30, 1934).

Z.1.3.4.1.8
ROBERT BOYD WILLETT and MARGARET LAURA CARROLL of New Richmond, Quebec

Robert Boyd Willett was born on May 20, 1872. He married on August 13, 1906, Margaret Laura Carroll. He died on January 4, 1938, and is burid in the New St. Jules Catholic Cemetery, Bonadventure County, Quebec. (Genealogy of the Cascapedia Bay Loyalists 1784-1984, pages 89-90).

1. George Bernard: b June 5, 1907; m Sarah Ellen O'Neil; d 1969.

    1. Mary Agnes Arline: b March 30, 1928; m J. Bruno Amand.

2. Thomas Clayton: b December 11, 1911; d June 27, 1940; never married. Buried in the New St. Jules Catholic Cemetery, Bonadventure County, Quebec.

3. John Wallace: b June 18, 1915; m June 27, 1944, Margaret Parisien (b March 17, 1922).

    1. Wayne: b October 28, 1954.

    2. Carol: b October 31, 1958.

    3. Barry: b May 21, 1962.

4. Maria Joanne Irene: b July 24, 1918; m James (Jim) Miller.

5. Mary Grace: b May 20, 1921.

6. Annie Julia: b July 10, 1926; m Arnold Kisser.

Z.1.3.4.1.15
DAVID ALLEN WILLETT and ANGELINA MYRTLE STEWARD of New Richmond, Quebec

David Allen Willett was born on July 27, 1880. He married on December 18, 1916, Myrtle A. Steward (July 22, 1880; d July 3, 1965). He died on April 18, 1953. (Genealogy of the Cascapedia Bay Loyalists 1784-1984, pages 90-91).

1. Doris Edna Steward: b May 28, 1917; m July 7, 1948, Albert Leslie Paquet (b May 13, 1907).

    1. Kathleen Lucilla Paquet: b March 20, 1955.

    2. Alice Jane Paquet: b November 4, 1958.

2. Chesley Nathaniel Rufus: b June 1, 1920; m April 17, 1946, Opal Best Campbell (b October 31, 1928; d December 14, 1972). (Genealogy of the Cascapedia Bay Loyalists 1784-1984, page 112).

    1. Linda Ann: b June 1, 1949; m Vienneau.

1. Cindy Vienneau: b July 5, 1971.

2. Natalie Vienneau: b July 6, 1974.

2. Pauline Edna: b August 17, 1950; m June 1, 1968, Marcel Glazier.

3. Lloyd Allan: b March 17, 1959.

3. Orville Lloyd: b October 10, 1921.

4. Lois Orma: b March 26, 1925; m 1945 Kenneth William Grant (b June 2, 1927).

1. Carol Lee Grant: b July 15, 1946; m Neil Anderson.

2. Sharon Dale Grant: b January 12, 1953; m Roger Staley.

5. Avis Jane Melvina: b November 26, 1926; m October 20, 1953, Ivan Dimock (b March 15, 1932). (Genealogy of the Cascapedia Bay Loyalists 1784-1984, page 112).

1. Dennis William: b August 8, 1949; m July 26, 1969, Annette Corier (b July 22, 1952).

1. Laurie Lee: b January 7, 1973.

2. Jason Dennis: b January 1, 1977.

2. Elaine Faye Dimock: b July 27, 1956.

Z.1.3.4.1.16

GEORGE EDSON WILLETT and MARGARET ANNE LE GOUFE of New Richmond, Quebec

George Edson Willett was born on December 21, 1884. He married on November 29, 1963 Margaret Anne Le Goufe (b October 24, 1888; d December 3, 1983). He died on July 27, 1931, and is buried in the New St. Jules Catholic Cemetery, Bonadventure County, Quebec. (Genealogy of the Cascapedia Bay Loyalists 1784-1984, page 91).

1. Joseph Wesley: b Feburary 17, 1911; buried June 27, 1922.

2. John Louis Hubert: b April 8, 1913; m Catherine (Kay) McKenzie; d May 12, 1979. See next Z.1.3.4.1.16.2

3. John Ivan Gerald: bp September 25, 1915; m Ida Clancy. See next Z.1.3.4.1.16.3.

4. Alfred Leaman: bp January 1, 1916; m Annie B. Lawliss (b Jul 19, 1913; d Mach 31, 1978). See next Z.1.3.4.1.16.4

5. Elizabeth Emmaline: b October 10, 1920; m September 30, 1947, James McCaffrey.

1. David McCaffey: m Patricia Doyle.

2. Peter McCaffey: m Jennifer Taylor.

6. Rita Ann: September 23, 1923; m June 1, 1957, Harold Palmer.

1. Margaret Palmer:

2. Katherine Palmer:

3. Patrick Palmer:

4. Paul Edson Palmer:

7. Mary Agnes Irma: bp December 19, 1926; m March 27, 1961, Anthony MacRae.

1. Donna MacRae:

2. Gail MacRae:

Z.1.3.4.1.16.2

JOHN LOUIS HUBERT WILLETT and CATHERINE MCKENZIE of New Richmond, Quebec

John Louis Hubert Willett was born on April 8, 1913. He married Catherine (Kay) McKenzie; d May 12, 1979. (Genealogy of the Cascapedia Bay Loyalists 1784-1984, page 113).

1. Irma: b 1943; m Leonard Savoire.

1. Terrance Savorie: b 1965.

2. Daniel Savorie: b 1966.

2. Martina: b 1945; m David Owens.

1. Kelly Owens: b 1968.

2. Tara Owens: b 1970; d 1971.

3. Jennifer Owens: b 1974.

4. Christian Owens: b 1978.

3. Wesley: b 1947; m Irene Plucinski.

1. Stephen: b 1975.

2. Jeffrey: b 1981.

4. Linda: m Barry Burchell.

Z.1.3.4.1.16.3
JOHN IVAN GERALD WILLETT and IDA CLANCY of New Richmond, Quebec

John Ivan Gerald Willett was baptized on September 25, 1915. He married about 1938 Ida Clancy. (Genealogy of the Cascapedia Bay Loyalists 1784-1984, page 113).

1. James: b 1942; m Jean Savoire.
    1. Johanne: b 1971.
    2. Jamie:
2. Norma: b 1943; m Sonny Main.
    1. Robert Main: b 1965.
    2. Michael Main: b 1967.
    3. Dawn Marie Main: b 1969.
3. Karen: b 1945; m John Marion.
    1. Jason Marion: b 1970.
    2. Mark Marion: b 1972.
    3. Kim Marion: b 1975.
4. Donald: b 1951; m June MacFarland.
    1. Kristopher: b 1979.
    2. Timothy: b 1982.

Z.1.3.4.1.16.4
ALFRED LEAMAN WILLETT and ANNIE LAWLIS of New Richmond, Quebec

Alfred Leaman Willett was baptized on January 1, 1916. He married Annie B. Lawliss (b Jul 19, 1913; d Mach 31, 1978). Both are buried in the New St. Jules Catholic Cemetery, Bonadventure County, Quebec. (Genealogy of the Cascapedia Bay Loyalists 1784-1984, page 114.

1. Helen: b 1942.
2. Gerald: b 1945; m Margaret Vickers.
    1. Jonathan: b 1979.
3. Brian: b 1948; m Pamala Wamsley.

1. Lori Ann: b 1981.

4. Barbara: b 1950; m Stan Augustyn.

1. Stephanny Augustyn: b 1979.

2. Leigh Anne Augustyn: b 1981.

Z.1.3.4.1.17
VINCENT WILLETT and ETHEL MARY MARTIN of New Richmond, Quebec

Vincent Willett was born on November 11, 1885. He married on December 15, 1918, Ethel Mary Martin (b April 6 or 7, 1894; d May 19, 1958). He died on May 23, 1957. (Genealogy of the Cascapedia Bay Loyalists 1784-1984, pages 91-92).

1. Mildred Joyce: b February 17, 1921; m August 21, 1954, Oliver Beverly Burton (b January 18, 1924).

1. Albert Vincent Burton: b January 27, 1955; m Gladys Cochrane Gilker (b December 3, 1942).

2. Grace Aliene Burton: b May 24, 1956; m Larry Montgomery (b August 3, 1955).

3. Richard William Burton: b September 27, 1957.

4. Ethel Joyce Burton: b March 26, 1959.

5. Ruth Dorothy Burton: b April 18, 1962.

2. Helena Elizabeth: b March 16, 1923; m David McArthur (b May 27, 1918).

1. Murray Vincent MacArthur: b August, 1948.

2. Joan MacArthur: b January 19, 1950.

3. Wendy MacArthur: b June 22, 1954.

3. Jean Mary: b October 27, 1927; m March 28, 1950, Gerald Leslie Dow (b May 15, 1922).

1. Gloria Elaine Dow: b October 22, 1951.

2. Claire Arthur Dow: b August 2, 1952.

3. Ian Charles Dow: b July 7, 1954; m Charlotte Riviere.

4. Gerald Leslie Dow:

5. Colleen Olive Dow:

4. Murray Vincent: b December 27, 1930.

5. Roy Howard: b October 14, 1933; m Mary Killey (b May 21, 1934). (Genealogy of the Cascapedia Bay Loyalists 1784-1984, page 115).

    1. Robert: b June 27, 1959.

    2. Roy: b February 9, 1961.

    3. Randy: b July 30, 1963.

    4. Ross: b February 23, 1965.

Z.1.3.4.1.18
RUFUS DAVID WILLETT and IDA CARROLL of New Richmond, Quebec

Rufus David Willett was born in 1889. He married in 1920 Ida Carroll (b 1892; d June 29, 1979, age 87). He died on October 16, 1954. (Genealogy of the Cascapedia Bay Loyalists 1784-1984, page 92).

1. R. Elizabeth Eileen: b March 28, 1921; m Gerald Archambault.

2. Mary Marguerite Ruth: b May 24, 1924; m Wilfred White.

3. Mary Cecile Francks: bp April 11, 1926; m Bert Varden.

4. Mary Dorothy Elva: bp April 26, 1928; unmarried.

5. John Thomas Carroll: b June 26, 1930 (twin).

6. Lila Mary Catherine: b June 26, 1930 (twin); m Ronald Loyer.

7. Lomer: b December 17, 1935; m Alice Asbury.

    1. Elizabeth: b December 9, 1964.

8. Mary Shirley Marion; b November 23, 1935; m Lindy Vibert.

Z.1.3.4.3
THOMAS WILLETT and MARY FORAN of New Richmond, Quebec

Thomas (Tom) Willett was born on September 4, 1834. He married on July 26, 1858, Mary Foran (b 1834; d November 28, 1907). Thomas died on August 22, 1912. (Genealogy of the Cascapedia Bay Loyalists 1784-1984, page 84).

1. Agnes (Aggie): b February 2, 1859; 1st Robinson (b December 26, 1852; d May 15, 1878); m 2d Donald McKay; d December 20, 1938. (Genealogy of the Cascapedia Bay Loyalists 1784-1984, page 93).

1. Richard Robertson: b May 24, 1878; removed to the United States.

2. Ruby Ann McKay: b June 21, 1890; m Duncan Hanson Coull (b April 28, 1885; d November 14, 1949); d October 23, 1973.

3. Jeanetta Sewell McKay: m William Hastwell Stanley McWhirter; d October 20, 1975.

4. Hazel Maud McKay: b March 31, 1886; m 1st David Sinclair Lyman (drowned in fall of 1906); m 2d Ira Graham Campbell (b 1886; d February, 1941).

5. Lynden McKay: died in World War I.

2. Mary Jane: b September 20, 1860; m Leaman.

1. George Leaman:

2. Walter Leaman:

3. Jacques Alexander (Bud): b December 20, 1863; unmarried.

4. Laura Ann: b November 1, 1865; m Bryce Scott; d 1902; no issue.

5. Walter Francis: b May 15, 1866.

6. Susan Amanda: b January 16, 1868; m James Thompson Fallow (d October 3, 1930); d March 5, 1948.

1. Cameron David Fallow:

2. James Seward Colin Fallow: m Carrie Ellen Howe.

3. Isabella Gertrude Fallow:

4. Mary Fallow:

5. Francais Fallow: m 1st Bill Brown; m 2d George Craik.

6. Edna May Fallow: m Ken Dean.

7. Lena Fallow: m Clem Woodman.

8. Elizabeth Cora Fallow:

9. Leora Fallow: m Eugene Minard.

7. Christine Adeline: b April 1, 1870; m Sam Bishop; d February 19, 1947.

1. Bryce Bishop: d November 25, 1975.

8. David Hastwell: b September 15, 1872, 1835; m Mary Carroll (b January, 1874; d November 4, 1956); d November 15, 1954. See next Z.1.3.4.3.7.

9. Mary Eunie: b December 15, 1874; m May 16, 1904, Edmund Nadeau (b March 15, 1879; d August 18, 1971); d August 29, 1954.

1. Charles Raymond Nadeau: m Annie Elizabeth (Betty) Trenton Shrimpton.

2. Jack Ernest Nadeau: m Alma Elizabeth Clapperton.

3. Marie Gertrude Corrine Nadeau:

9. Robert Gordon: b March 18, 1878; m Bridget Kane (b July 23, 176; d December 20, 1966); d September 12, 1957. See next Z.1.3.4.3.9.

10. Thomas Allan: b February 6, 1882; m October 13, 1909, Viola May Gilker (b May 26, 1890; d September 1, 1958); d February 25, 1961. See next Z.1.3.4.3.10.

Z.1.3.4.3.7
DAVID HASTWELL WILLETT and MARY CARROLL of New Richmond, Quebec

Dave Hastwell Willett was born on September 15, 1872. He married abt 1898 Mary Carroll (b January, 1874; d November 4, 1956). He died on November 15, 1954. (Genealogy of the Cascapedia Bay Loyalists 1784-1984, page 95).

1. Viola Mary: b abt 1900; m September 18, 1923, Antoine Alfred Casgrain; d July 18, 1974.

1. Rudy Cagrain:

2. Warren Cagrain:

2. Thomas William Leo: bp July 13, 1902.

3. Laura Anne: b September 23, 1904, m 1st Don Allan; m 2d Barton Clark; d March 22, 1983.

4. David Carroll: b April 4, 1908.

5. George Bryce: bp September 25, 1910; m Ruth Ellen McWhirter (b 1918; d January 20, 1970); d May 22, 1983.

1. (son): b and d on February 10, 1952.

6. Joseph Bryron: bp May 22, 1915; unmarried; d August, 1960.

Z.1.3.4.3.9
ROBERT GORDON WILLETT and BRIDGET KANE of Quebec

Robert Gordon Willett was born on March 18, 1878. He married about 1900 Bridget Kane (b July 23, 1876; d December 20, 1966). He died on September 12, 1957. (Genealogy of the Cascapedia Bay Loyalists 1784-1984, pages 95, 124).

1-4: infant deaths.

5. Arnold: b abt 1912; d at age 9.

6. Brenda Catherine: b July 28, 1914; m Carroll Andrew Cyr (b April 6, 1907).

1. Margaret Anne Cyr:

2. Pauline Marie Elizabeth Cyr:

7. Elizabeth: b abt 1918.

8. Kenneth Alexander: b abt 1920.

9. Ralph: b abt 1922.

Z.1.3.4.3.10
THOMAS ALLAN WILLETT and VIOLA GILKER of New Richmond, Quebec

Thomas Allan Willett was born on February 6, 1882. He married on October 13, 1909, Viola Gilker (b May 26, 1890; d September 1, 1958). He died on February 25, 1961. (Genealogy of the Cascapedia Bay Loyalists 1784-1984, page 96).

1. James Thomas Claude: b July 8, 1910; m Mamie; d September 18, 1976.

1. Cathy:

2. Vivian Irene Elsie: b May 9, 1917; m Charles Cedric Watson (b October 16, 1910).

1. Constance (Connie) Margaret Watson: b May 13, 1937; m George Howard Burns Campbell.

3. Mary Alda: b May 24, 1921; m W. H. Newhauser; d April 15, 1917.

1. Tommy Newhauser: m Dorothy.

Z.1.3.4.4
JAMES WILLETT and ELIZABETH DUTHRIE of New Richmond, Quebec

James Willett was born on October 1, 1836. He married on October 24, 1865, Elizabeth Duthrie (b 1844; d 1921). He died in 1912. Both are buried at St. Andrew's Protestant Church Cemetery, New Richmond. (Genealogy of the Cascapedia Bay Loyalists 1784-1984, pages 84-85).

1. Charlotte H: b abt 1867; m William H. Willett; of Grand Cascapedia.

2. Sarah Ann: b February 16, 1870; m Parker Choate.

3. Henriette Sikvenite: b March 17, 1872; d February 17, 1889.

4. Ervin Obrey: b March 11, 1874; m July 26, 1904, Jane Elizabeth Doddridge (b January 12, 1878; d November 13, 1964); d December 19, 1966. See next Z.1.3.4.4.4.

5. Letitia (Letishe) Emily: b January 6, 1876.

6. Tizzie: b January 6, 1876; m on October 14, 1895, James William Hamilton.

7. Miranda (Marine) Jane: b August 13, 1878; m Zeno Elwell (b September 10, 1872; d November 13, 1951); d May 10, 1919.

1. Alice Elizabeth (Betty) Elwell:

2. Mary Frances Elwell:

8. Alice Burton Duthrie: b March 27, 1880; m February 6, 1907, William Powell (b 1874; d May 6, 1957); resided at New Richmond, Quebec; d May 9, 1973. Both are buried at St. Andrew's Protestant Church Cemetery, New Richmond.

1. Lillian Powell:

2. Elizabeth Eileen Powell: m Romely Graves.

9. Miles Robert (Sonny): b August 30, 1882; m October 2, 1907, Ann Elizabeth Fallow; d November 2, 1965. See next Z.1.3.4.4.9.

10. Arthur Lorne: b March 3, 1884.

11. Elizabeth Maude: b March 16, 1886; m October 13, 1907, Charles Howard Nelson (d March 15, 1966); d November 25, 1983.

1. Lloyd McBeth Nelson: m Florence Beatrice Woodworth.

2. Beverley Nelson:

3. Helen Nelson: m Bill Brown.

12. Collus Pearl: b January 10, 1891; m Andrew Jenning (d July 6, 1935); d April 2, 1971.

1. Thelma Margaret Jenning: m Carl Hocquard.

2. James Lennon Jenning:

3. Boswell Jenning:

4. Doris Jenning:

5. Kenneth Jenning:

Z.1.3.4.4.4
ERVIN OBREY WILLETT and JANE ELIZABETH DODDRIDGE of New Richmond, Quebec

Ervin Obrey Willett was born on March 11, 1874. He married on July 26, 1904, Jane Elizabeth Doddridge (b January 12, 1878; d November 13, 1964). He died on December 19, 1966. Both are buried at St. Andrew's Protestant Church Cemetery, New Richmond. (Genealogy of the Cascapedia Bay Loyalists 1784-1984, page 96).

1. Reginald John Ervin: b October 1, 1905; m July 27, 1929, Elva Marjorie Campbell (b February 25, 1904); d December 28, 1971. See next Z.1.3.4.4.4.1.

2. Gavin (Gay) Archibald: b January 17, 1907; unmarried; d July 24, 1935.

3. Delcie Elva: b December 26, 1909; m July 6, 1935, James Clifton Fairservice (b August 18, 1905; d January 19, 1984).

1. Gail Clifton Fairservice: m Muriel Bewick.

Z.1.3.4.4.4.1
REGINALD JOHN ERVIN WILLETT and ALVA CAMPBELL of New Richmond, Quebec

Reginald John Ervin Willett was born on October 1, 1905. He married on July 27, 1929, Alva Campbell. He died on December 28, 1971. (Genealogy of the Cascapedia Bay Loyalists 1784-1984, page 125).

1. Wayne Reginald: b May 2, 1930; m Barbara Fulton (b March 9, 1937).

1. Joanne Catherine: b September 22, 1958; m John Martin.

2. Theresa Lynn: b August 26, 1960.

2. Kay Marjorie: b April 1, 1932; m Eugene David Russell; d October 26, 1977.

1. Geoffrey Willett Russell: b July 17, 1955; m Lorraine Healey.

2. Matthew Doddridge Russell: b March 22, 1961.

3. Ian Christian Russell: b January 22, 1969.

3. Anne Janet: b February 8, 1934; m Benjamin Whitney (b February 8, 1934).

1. Elizabeth Ann Whitney: b July 17, 1955.

2. Jane Kristina Whitney: b September 18, 1957; m William Robin.

3. David Benjamin Edward Willett Whitney: b February 27, 1962.

4. Carol Jean: b October 10, 1937; m Donald Loring Ogilive (b February 21, 1935).

1. Peter Lorine Ogilvie: b November 23, 1958.

2. Jason Christopher Ogilvie: b February 24, 1961.

3. Jonathan Scott Ogilvie: b September 24, 1963.

4. Ruth Alexander Ogilvie: b April 11, 1971.

5. Gail Campbell: b February 23, 1943; m Ray Stelter (b September 3, 1938).

1. Sarah Jane Stelter: b July 11, 1967.

2. Matthew Raymond Willett Stelter: b May 20, 1970.

Z.1.3.4.4.9
MILES ROBERT WILLETT and ANN FALLOW of New Richmond, Quebec

Robert Myles (Sonny) Willett was born on August 30, 1882, in New Richmond, Quebec. He married in New Richmond, Quebec, on October 2, 1907, Ann Fallow)b June 20, 1880, in Halsbay, Newfoundland; d October 30, 1965, age 85, at Red Deer, Alberta, Canada), the daughter of John Gavin Fallow and Janet Mckenzie.

Miles Willett and some other male relatives came out to Red Deer, Alberta, in April of 1910. Their wifes and children joined them in the fall. Miles bought a farm in Shady Nook in the N. W. of 4.

"Miles Willett joined the Great West Lumber Company and worked as a teamster around the mill and hauled logs until the mill was closed in 1917. He was put in charge of dismantling the mill and buildings. After a stay of one year spent building houses at Nordegg, the family moved into a house near the north end of the railway bridge north of the river in Red Deer. Miles (then) worked at road construction for the Provincial Government from 1918 until the onset of his terminal illness in 1932" (unknown Alberta history).

Robert died on November 2, 1932, in Red Deer, Alberta, Canada.

(Genealogy of the Cascapedia Bay Loyalists 1784-1984, page 97).

1. John Delbert: b May 11, 1908, in New Richmond, Quebec; m in Red Deer, Alberta, on September 9, 1936, Grace Myrtle Locke (b August, 1918); d November 27, 1975, at New Richmond, Quebec. "He worked at odd jobs during the worst of the depression, then started a dray business delivering coal and lumber for the Atlas Lumber Company. He had

one of the earliest models International Trucks which became a familar sight around town." (Genealogy of the Cascapedia Bay Loyalists 1784-1984, page 126).

1. Shirley Ann: b January 13, 1938, at Red Deer, Alberta; m at Red Deer on August 20, 1955, Raymond Wilson (b August 14, 1936).

2. Loree Olive: b May 10, 1939; m September 10, 1955, Gary Shannon (b May 22, 1936).

2. James Archibald: b June 10, 1910, in New Richmond, Quebec; d January 29, 1911, at Red Deer, Alberta, at the age of 7 months.

3. Arthur Myles: b September 13, 1915, at Red Deer, Alberta; m at Wetaskiwin, Alberta, on July 14, 1935, Lennia Didriksen; d on October 30, 1935, in Red Deer about 2 weeks after his marriage.

Z.1.3.4.7
ALEXANDER WILLETT and SUSAN BARTER of New Richmond, Quebec

Alexander Willett was born on March 15, 1841. He married on February 17, 1869, Susan Barter (b June 30, 1846; d January 17, 1925, age 78 years). He use to visit his 1st cousin, Mary (Willett) McColm very often and relate the story of the Willett family. He had a good memory and with the repeating of the stories over the years, he has put down a very good outline of the Willett family from William Willett and Mary Gilker.

Alexander died on April 22, 1928. A head stone survives. Both are buried at St. Andrew's Protestant Church in New Richmond. (Genealogy of the Cascapedia Bay Loyalists 1784-1984, pages 85-86)

1. Robert David: b December 18, 1869; m September 1, 1896, Florence Clarkson (b 1872; d June 22, 1932, age 60); d June 10, 1955. See next Z.1.3.4.7.1.

2. Irwin Steven: b November 11, 1871; m March 21, 1899, Mary Janet Fairservice (b 1873; d October 29, 1942, U. C.); d January 13, 1943. See next Z.1.3.4.7.2.

3. George Hudson: b April 12, 1874; m April 3, 1901, Ella Gilker (b May 10, 1873; d October 18, 1933); d August 19, 1961. See next Z.1.3.4.7.3.

4. Barbara Agnes: b November 23, 1879; m Robert Grant Fairservice.

1. James Clifton Fairservice:

2. George Fairservice:

5. Elizabeth Ann: b February 24, 1876; m May 22, 1891, Malcolm McLellan (b February 3, 1875; d April 21, 1944); d March 7, 1964.

1. Otis Alexander McLellan: m Ella Briad.

2. Cecil Kenneth McLellan:

3. Edra Irene McLellan: m Carlisle Whitney.

4. Eileen Susannah McLellan: m Leo Dea.

5. Stanley McLellan: d in infancy, age 4 months.

6. Glenna McLellan: d in infancy, age 1 ½ months.

7. Alma Bernice McLellan: m Preston Mclellan.

8. Clement Perceival McLellan: d in World War II.

9. Vivian Jean McLellan: m Harry Fraser.

10. Beulah McLellan: d in infancy, age 7 months.

6. Alexander Beach: b June 14, 1879; m Lydia Jane Barter (d November 8, 1945); no children; d January 23, 1879.

7. Clement James: b May 28, 1882; m Emma Robertson; d abt 1945; buried in Beechmount Cemetery in a portion reserved for veterans in Calgary.

1. Doris Eileen Robertson: b May 18, 1908; m December 2, 1924, John Mitchell Harrison.

8. William Beach: b August 4, 1884, U. C; m Lydia Barter (b 1890; d November 8, 1945); d 1974, age 90.

1. (child): b and d on March 13, 1916; stillborn.

9. Sarah Eispeth: b December 27, 1886; m in Camrose, Alberta, on September 17, 1914, Halmar Dahl (b February 4, 1886); resides at Wegdahl, Minnesota.

1. Gwendolyn Susan Dahl: b February 26, 1916; d spring of 1939.

2. Warren Willett Dahl: b August 4, 1918; m Ruth H. Lawford.

10. Bernice Isabell: b January 19, 1890; m George McLelland; d June 10, 1969.

11. Ella Edna: b January 21, 1892; m William (Jack) A. Boyt; no issue.

Z.1.3.4.7.1

ROBERT DAVID WILLETT and FLORENCE CLARKSON of New Richmond, Quebec

Robert David Willett was born on December 18, 1869. He married on September 1, 1896, Florence Clarkson (b 1872; d June 22, 1932, age 60). He died on June 10, 1955. (Genealogy of the Cascapedia Bay Loyalists 1784-1984, page 99).

1. Freda Bernice: b October 28, 1901; m June 16, 1923, Howard Wilson Hardy (b May 7, 1890; d July 8, 1965); d January 20, 1925; no issue.

2. Hilda Susan: b May 27, 1906; m June 23, 1925, Howard Wilson Hardy (b May 7, 1890; d July 8, 1965); d October 18, 1977.

1. Robert William Hardy: b April 17, 1922; m August 2, 1947, Shirley Marie Harrison (b October 12, 1922).

2. Ruth Audrey Hardy: m James Angus Long.

Z.1.3.4.7.2
IRWIN STEVEN WILLETT and MARY JANET FAIRSERVICE of New Richmond, Quebec

Irwin Steven Willett was born on November 11, 1871. He married on March 21, 1899, Mary Janet Fairservice (b 1873; d October 29, 1942, U. C.). He died on January 13, 1943. Both are buried in the St. Andrew's Church Protestant Cemetery in New Richmond.

1. Leila May: b May 6, 1901; m 1st Watson Ascah; m 2d G. Hastwell McWhirter (b July 4, 1886); d February 9, 1966.

1. Evelyn May Watson:

2. Bernice Willett Watson:

2. Raymond Alexander: b July 10, 1902; m February 3, 1931, Flossie Louise McGee (b March 23, 1915); d June 15, 1982. Z.1.3.4.7.2.2.

3. Robert Currie: b November 4, 1904; m June 27, 1925, Ida Isabel Watson (b April 27, 1905); d November 12, 1950. See next Z.1.3.4.7.2.3.

4. James Lawrence: b January 13, 1907; m Beverley Eleanor Coull (b November 22, 1919; d 1983). See next Z.1.3.4.7.2.4.

Z.1.3.4.7.2.2
RAYMOND ALEXANDER WILLETT and FLOSSIE LOUISE MCGEE of New Richmond, Quebec

Raymond Alexander Willett was born on July 10, 1902, in New Richmond, Quebec. He married on February 3, 1931, Flossie Louise McGee (b March 23, 1915). He died on June 15, 1982, at Val d' Or, Quebec. (Genealogy of the Cascapedia Bay Loyalists 1784-1984, page 133).

1. Donald Irwin: b January 8, 1932; m Michelle Picotte.

1. David Clark: b October 31, 1961.

2. Elaine Louise: b December 7, 1932; m George Chartrand (b July 26, 1929).

1. George Chartrand, Jr: m Louise Gagne.

2. Andrea Chartrand: (twin) m Raymond Gaguy.

3. Linda Chartrand: (twin) m Ivan Nasasiah.

4. Gigi Chartrand:

3. Lorna Jane: b December 3, 1933; m 1st Chuck Smith; m 2d Max Mannix.

4. Shirley Marie: b December 23, 1934; m Roger Edmund Beauchamp (b October 19, 1931).

1. Cindy Beauchamp:

2. Lori Beauchamp:

3. Mark David Beauchamp:

Z.1.3.4.7.2.3
ROBERT CURRIE WILLETT and IDA WATSON of New Richmond, Quebec

Robert Currie Willett was born on November 4 1904. He married on June 27, 1925, Ida Isabel Watson (b April 27, 1905). He died on November 12, 1950. He is buried at St. Andrew's Church Protestant Cemetery, New Richmond. (Genealogy of the Cascapedia Bay Loyalists 1784-1984, page 134).

1. George Watson: b October 26, 1925; m May 25, 1946, Ila Evelena McWhirter (b September 21, 1926). See next Z.1.3.4.7.2.3.1.

2. Eugene Irwin: b September 4, 1927; d January 12, 1948.

3. Mary Isabell: b September 10, 1928; m James Denholm Fleming (b March 31, 1929).

1. James Denholm Flemming:

2. Elizabeth Barbara Flemming:

3. Janet Mary Flemming:

4. William Alexander Flemming:

4. Eva Peggy: b January 27, 1930; m February 28, 1954, Raymond Wilfred Nadeau (b December 16, 1922).

1. John Michael Nadeau:

2. Patricia Ann Nadeau:

5. John Doddridge: b May 28, 1933; unmarried.

6. Kenny Alexander: b November 22, 1938; m Margaret Elizabeth (Peggy) Doddridge (b March 27, 1940). (Genealogy of the Cascapedia Bay Loyalists 1784-1984, page 161).

1. Jennifer Leanne: b July 13, 1968.

2. (twin): b and d November 12, 1973.

3. (twin): b and d November 12, 1973.

4. Eugene Doddridge: b April 1, 1970.

5. Susan Elizabeth: b February 19, 1979.

Z.1.3.4.7.2.3.1
GEORGE WATSON WILLETT and ILA EVELENA MCWHIRTER of New Richmond, Quebec

George Watson Willett was born on October 26, 1925. He married on May 25, 1946, Ila Evelena McWhirter (b September 21, 1926). They reside in Winsor, Quebec. (Genealogy of the Cascapedia Bay Loyalists 1784-1984, pages 136, 160).

1. Cynthia Arlene: b August 12, 1947; m Richard Peterson (b May 4, 1947).

    1. Richard Peterson (twin): b June 11, 1967.

    2. Debbie Peterson (twin): b June 11, 1967.

    3. Sheri Peterson: b March 26, 1970.

2. Sandra Lee: b June 26, 1950; m John Dennis.

3. Deborah Helena: b June 12, 1952; m Paul Kenny.

4. John David: b September 26, 1954?

Z.1.3.4.7.2.4
JAMES LAWRENCE WILLETT and BEVERLEY ELEANOR COULL of New Richmond, Quebec

James Lawrence (Lorne) Willett was born on January 13, 1907. He married Beverley Eleanor Coull (b November 22, 1919; d 1983 in New Richmond). They reside in Sudbury, Ontario, Canada. (Genealogy of the Cascapedia Bay Loyalists 1784-1984, page 134).

1. Dale Edward: b April 5, 1939; m Betty Anne Blais.

2. Patricia Myrtle May: b November 15, 1940; m Spencer Rooney.

3. Lorne Erwin: b January 6, 1941; m Nicole Choquette.

4. Clara Robin: b February 26, 1948; m Robert Scott.

Z.1.3.4.7.3
GEORGE HUDSON WILLETT and ELLA GILKER of New Richmond, Quebec

George Hudson Willett was born on April 12, 1874. He married on April 3, 1901, Ella Gilker (d October 18, 1933). He died on August 19, 1961, in New Richmond, Quebec. (Genealogy of the Cascapedia Bay Loyalists 1784-1984, page 100).

1. Maggie Alexander (Alexis): b January 29, 1902; m Albert Whitney.

    1. David Albert Whitney:

    2. Paige Whitney:

2. Violet Gwyendolyn: b June 17, 1903; unmarried; d April 11, 1983.

3. George Ralph: b March 11, 1905; m October 13, 1938, Violet Mary McColm (b August 28, 1914); d June 12, 1982. (Genealogy of the Cascapedia Bay Loyalists 1784-1984, page 135).

    1. Dennis McGee: b November 11, 1944; m April 9, 1977, Dianne Bedard.

        1. Timothy George: b December 17, 1978.

    2. John Michael: July 13, 1953; m December 31, 1976, Evelyn Elizabeth Fraser (b September 23, 1954).

        1. Sarah Elizabeth: b June 17, 1978.

        2. Jordan Michael: b December 10, 1980.

4. Katheleen McDonald: b February 17, 1907; unmarried.

5. Keith Arthur: b October 4, 1910; m February, 1940, Francais McColm (b January 16, 1916); d December 26, 1980. (Genealogy of the Cascapedia Bay Loyalists 1784-1984, page 135).

    1. Nancy Isabell: b August 22, 1940.

    2. Bradley Keith: b December 14, 1942; m June 27, 1970, Shirley Violet Patricia Goodman (b September 21, 1947).

        1. Daniel Keith: b September 20, 1972.

        2. Shawn Bradley: b January 19, 1975.

        3. Trent James:

        4. Michael Bruce:

6. Clarke Stamford: b September 20, 1912; m Doris Doddridge (b March 23, 1915); no issue; d July 8, 1960.

7. Mary Geraldine: b December 24, 1917; m Ian Angus.

Z.1.3.4.8
ROBERT BOYD WILLETT and SARAH ELLEN DIMOCK of New Richmond, Quebec

Robert Boyd Willett was born on February 12, 1843, at New Richmond, Quebec. He married on August 16, 1882, Sarah Ellen Dimock (b 1856, d 1916). Robert was a farmer. Usually, depending on the season, someone like Robert Boyd Willett would farm during the summer, then go to Newfoundland to cut lumber, and finally fish the annual salmon run.

A tombstone survives in the St. Andrew Church Protestant Cemetery; evidently it is his son J. Sydney Willett (b 1883, d 1949) who is buried beside them.

(Genealogy of the Cascapedia Bay Loyalists 1784-1984, page 86).

1. Ralph James Sidney: b May 21, 1883; unmarried.

2. Edith Isabella: b July 4, 1886; m 1st Watson Aska; m 2d Gavin Hastwell McWhirter (b May 15, 1894); d September 19, 1946.

1. Dorothy Sarah Ellen McWhirter: m Robert Rayburn Lynd.

2. Cecil McWhirter: d.y. on February 4, 1916.

3. Frank Alex McWhirter: m Eileen Duthrie.

4. Jean Elizabeth McWhirter: m Preston McSwain.

5. Ila Evelyn McWhirter: m George Watson Willett.

3. Reuben Rufus: b May 31, 1892, in New Richmond, Quebec; m September 27, 1916, Alice Jane Watson Stewart (b February 18, 1891; d October 29, 1977); he died June 28, 1949. See next Z.1.3.4.8.3.

Z.1.3.4.8.3
REUBEN RUFUS WILLETT and ALICE JANE WATSON STEWART of New Richmond, Quebec

Reuben Rufus Willett was born on May 31, 1892, on Dimock Creek, at New Richmond, Quebec. The houses on 1 side of Dimock Creek for over a mile and a half were only Willetts.

Reuben Willett married on September 27, 1916, Alice Jane Watson Steward (b February 18, 1891; d October 29, 1977). He was a farmer on Dimock Creek. He died June 28, 1949, and is buried at St. Andrew's Church Protestant Cemetery.

(Genealogy of the Cascapedia Bay Loyalists 1784-1984, page 102).

1. Robert Sheldon: b April 26, 1917, at New Richmond; m Annie Emma McWhirter (b November 14, 1917); d September 12, 1975.

1. Andrew Allan: b June 27, 1945, at Val d' Or, Quebec; m Shirley Grey.

1. Vicky: b August 13, 1965.

2. Lana: b December 2, 1967.

2. Judith Jean: b at Val d' Or; m Al Hoover.

2. Hawley Dean: b July 6, 1919, at New Richmond; he served in World War II; worked on the railroad and retired in December, 1980; m September 16, 1950, Susan Florence Fairservice (b July 10, 1932; d July 10, 1974); d February 22, 1982.

1. Robert Burns: b July 15, 1951, in London, Ontario; unmarried; presently resides in Dale, Ontario, Canada; works at a motor transport company.

3. Conrad Steward: b July 31, 1923, in New Richmond; m August 21, 1947, 1st Gloria Eleanor Harrison (b January 11, 1928; d September 3, 1974); m 2d on June 26, 1976, his sister-in-law Marion Grace Harrison (b October 4, 1932).

1. Terry Dean: b January 31, 1949; d December 31, 1977.

2. Steward Reuben: b March 13, 1950; d December 23, 1973.

3. Brian Edwin: b April 19, 1951; m August 10, 1974, Andrea Ann Hooper (b September 29, 1949).

1. Jesse Andrew: b June 17, 1981, in Calgary, Alberta, Canada.

4. Lori Lea: b January 2, 1966, at Val d' Or, Quebec.

Z.1.3.5
WILLIS LEO WILLETT and MARY O'CONNORS of New Richmond, Quebec

Willis Leo Willett was born about 1808. He was a Roman Catholic and married Mary O'Connors (b in Ireland). They lived on a 50 acre farm in a frame house in 1861. He is thought to have died in 1861.
(Genealogy of the Cascapedia Bay Loyalists 1784-1984, pages 65-66).

1. Mary Ann: b 1831; m James Walsh.

2. Elizabeth: b 1833; d after 1917.

3. William Stephen: b December 26, 1835; m Leda Berube (b January 28, 1858; d February 7, 1941); d December 26, 1926. See next Z.1.3.5.3.

4. Ellen: b February 11, 1837; m Joe Bujold (b 1835).

5. Margaret: b October 11, 1839; d after 1917.

6. Willis: b 1843; never married.

Z.1.3.5.3
WILLIAM STEPHEN WILLETT and LEDA BERUBE of New Richmond, Quebec

William Stephen Willett was born on December 26, 1835. He married about 1855 Leda Berube (b January 28, 1858; d February 7, 1941). He died on December 26, 1926.
(Genealogy of the Cascapedia Bay Loyalists 1784-1984, page 66).

1. Albine: b August 24, 1885; m John Wagner.

    1. Mary Louise Anita Wagner: m Phillip Garrell.

2. Philip Elias: b January 10, 1888; d 1897.

3. Mary Leoinde: b May 24, 1889; d January 30, 1984.

4. Joseph Louis William: b February 4, 1891; m Catherine Caissy (d January 28, 1983); d December 9, 1957. (Genealogy of the Cascapedia Bay Loyalists 1784-1984, page 68).

    1. Mary Elizabeth (Betty): b April 4, 1933; m Paul Comeau.

        1. Carla Comeau: b February 4, 1965

    2. William Steven: b April 23, 1935; m Lucell Pardiac (b July 12, 1938).

        1. Patricia (Patsy): b August 4, 1959.

        2. Susan: b August 17, 1961.

        3. Allan: b June 3, 1965.

4. Marlene: b October 30, 1973.

3. Charlie Horace: b October 23, 1936; m Louise Bouchard (b May 23, 1941).

1. Stephen: b April 30, 1967.

2. Ann: b April 7, 1970.

3. Brian: b May 20, 1971.

5. Stephen James, Sr: b January 6, 1893; m Emma Cecil Leonard. See next Z.1.3.5.3.5.

6. Leoinde: b October, 1895; m Frank Guite; no issue; d February 5, 1974.

7. Joe Horace (Racey) Lawrence: b March 19, 1897; not married.

8. Philip Anthony: b December 28, 1899; d August 26, 1972.

1. Keith:

2. Donald:

9. Anita: b July 10, 1906; not married.

Z.1.3.5.3.5
STEPHEN JAMES WILLETT and VONDA EMMA LEONARD of New Richmond, Quebec

Stephen James Willett was born on January 6, 1893. He married about 1915 Vonda Emma Leonard. He died on November 25, 1974. They removed to western Canada. (Genealogy of the Cascapedia Bay Loyalists 1784-1984, page 66).

1. Anthoine Phillip: b abt 1917; m Peggy Eade.

2. William Patrick: b abt 1920; m Trudy.

3. Joseph Steven: b abt 1922.

4. Harvey: resides in Alberta; a bank president.

5. Ronald:

6. Cecilia: m David Whitehead.

7. Anita: m John Exner.

8. Doreen:

9. Arlene: became a nun and sent to Turkey.

10. Lorraine:

11. Shirley: m Lorne Andrew.

12. Elevelyn.

Z.1.3.6

MARY PRUDENCE WILLETT and WILLIAM MCLELAN of Caplan, Gaspe Coast, Quebec

Mary (Polly) Prudence Willett was born in 1810, on Dimock Creek near New Richmond, on the Gaspe Coast, Quebec Province. She married on June 28, 1831, William Mclelan (b 1806; d December 31, 1872) and they lived in Caplan (approximately 15 miles from New Richmond).

She died on April 7, 1881, at age 71. Both are buried in St. Andrew's Church Protestant Churchyard, New Richmond, and their headstones survive. Their tombstone inscriptions are written back-to-back on the same grave stone.

(Genealogy of the Cascapedia Bay Loyalists 1784-1984, pages 161-162).

1. Elizabeth Mclellan: b August 4, 1833; m William Willett.

    1. James Willaby Willett: died in infancy.

2. John Mclellan: b April 8, 1835; m Margaret Amelia McRae.

3. Mary Mclellan: b April 2, 1837; d October 12, 1911.

4. William Mclellan: b November 20, 1838; probably died young.

5. James Mclellan: b July 1, 1841; m March 23, 1928, Julianna Furlotte.

6. Alexander (Sandy) Mclellan: b March 17, 1842; m Annie McCormick.

7. Thomas Mclellan: b May 18, 1845; m Margaret Colville; d March 4, 1913.

8. Robert McClellan: b 1848; m Annie Jamieson.

9. George Milne Mclellan: b 1849; m Sarah Mclellan; d July 25, 1931.

10. Agnes Mclellan: b May 16, 1856; probably died young.

11. William Boyd Mclellan: b May 29, 1852; m Emma McRae (b June 5, 1964; d July 21, 1957).

    1. Elsie E. Mclellan: m Wilfred Willett.

Z.1.3.7

WILLIAM THOMAS WILLETT and JULIA ANN PRITCHARD of New Richmond, Quebec

William Thomas Willett was born on December 26, 1812. He married about 1833 Julia Ann Pritchard (b October 20, 1817; d 1914 in Kansas City, age 97), a daughter of Ralph Pritchard of New Richmond. They lived on 50 acres of land near New Richmond at Black Cape beside his brother, John. This was originally Pritchard land, and 50 acres came to each brother through their marriage to the Pritchard sisters, Mary and Julia Ann.

William Thomas Willett was a sailor and a captain when he died of cholera in Montreal. He died on November 1, 1853, while traveling. Supposedly he was buried at sea (Bookstaver, page 77; Biographical History of Genesee County, Michigan, 1908, page 292; Genealogy of the Cascapedia Bay Loyalists 1784-1984, page 201).

1. Thomas Andrew: b April 7, 1842, in the province of Quebec, New Richmond, Bonaventure; 1st 1867 Emily Wheat Jones (b January 19, 1845; d May 2, 1881); m 2d June 30, 1886 Elsie A. Judd; d November 21, 1923. See next Z.1.3.7.1.

2. Mary: b abt 1845; d after 1917.

3. Sarah: b abt 1847.

4. Matilda: b abt 1850; d after 1917.

5. Elizabeth: b January 7, 1850; d January 6, 1858.

6. Christie Adie: b December 10, 1852, one month after her father had died at sea.

7. William: b abt 1855.

Z.1.3.7.1

THOMAS ANDREW WILLETT of New Richmond, Quebec, and Flint, Michigan

Thomas Andrew Willett was born on April 7, 1842, at New Richmond. He remained here until his 12th year (1853).

> "He then he went out to sea with his father, and for the next two years served as cabin boy on his father's vessel. He continued the sailor's life until 1861, and had many exciting experiences with storm and wave.
>
> His next move was to enlist in the United States navy, in which service he continued until 1864. This period of his life was also filled with many ups and downs. Conspicious among these was a close call while in the contest for the capture of Fort Henry on the Tennessee River. He had been assigned to the gunboat, the Essex, when the boilers of the vessel were exploded by the bursting of a shell. Mr. Willett was close at hand and suffered scalding and his body was so riddled that twenty-one wounds were counted. For three hours he lay in a semi-conscious state, being able to realize what was going on around him, but unable to speak or make any move or demonstration. His life

> hung apparently by a thread, but strength finally returned and he ultimately recovered his health.
>
> After the close of the war, he repaired to New York state and became engaged at carpentering, following this until 1867. He came west to Michigan, and for three years followed carpentry at Battle Creek. In 1883, he came to Flint, continuing his trade, but also forming a partnership with E. J. Bennett, manufacturers of carbonated soda water" Biographical History of Genesee County, Michigan, 1908, page 292).

In the 1861 Census he describes himself as a mariner of Nova Scotia.

He married 1st at Battle Creek, Michigan, in 1867 Emily Jones (b 1843 in Scipio, New York; d at Maple Rapids, Michigan, on May 2, 1881).

He married 2d on June 30, 1886, Elsie A. Judd. He moved to Ionia, Michigan. On December 10, 1917, he wrote a letter from his home at 505 Fairlane, Flint, Michigan, to his cousin, James Willett, of New Richmond. In it he recounts his memories of the winters in New Richmond, his numerous relatives, and recounts how he was a Confederate prisoner for one week, until "I with three others stole and fought our way to liberty."

> "Mr. and Mrs. Willet are active members in the Episcopal church and are closely identified with many leading orders and socities of the city. Mr. Willet has held some of the chief places of trust and honor in the lodges of Odd Fellows and Maccabees. He was a charter member of the first canton of Odd Fellows organized here and was its first presiding officer. Mrs. Willet taught in the city schools of Flint for nine years, and has been a member of the Columbian Club for some time, giving many of her spare hours to the work. She is one of the leaders in the literary life of the city and is responisble in a measure for the lively spirit and aggressive activities of those interested in this phase of the city's social achievements" Biographical History of Genesee County, Michigan, 1908, page 293).

Thomas Andrew Willett died in November 21, 1923.

(Bookstaver, page 77; Biographical History of Genesee County, Michigan, 1908, pages 292-293; Genealogy of the Cascapedia Bay Loyalists 1784-1984, page 201).

1. Frederick Stuart: b 1873; m 1901 Mary Ellen Townsend; lived in Flint, Michigan. He was a blacksmith and a machinist in charge of the Electrick R. R. Shop. (Bookstaver, page 77); d 1958. See next Z.1.3.7.1.1.

2. Annie O: b 1877; m W. Rollo Brink of Bloomingfield Hills, Michigan (abt 30 miles from Detroit). Mr. Brink raised chickens and eggs for sale in Detroit; "sells about $100.00 a week, never less." No issue. (Bookstaver, page 77).

3. Frances H: b 1879 of Bay City, Michigan; m Daniel Smith.

4. George H: b abt 1888.

5. Thirza: b abt 1870.

6. Elise: b abt 1872.

Z.1.3.7.1.1
FREDERICK STUART WILLETT and MARY TOWNSEND of Flint, Michigan

Frederick Stuart Willett was born in 1873 in Ionia, Michigan. He married Mary Ellen Townsend (b 1870 in Goodrich, Michigan) and they lived in Flint, Michigan where he was a machinist in charge of the Electrick R. R. Shop. (Bookstaver, page 77).

1. Harold T: b 1901.

2. Stuart Thomas: b March 3, 1904; m Leota Hibbard in Flint. See next Z.1.3.7.1.1.2.

Z.1.3.7.1.1.2
STUART THOMAS WILLETT and LEOTA HIBBARD of Flint, Michigan

Stuart Thomas Willett was born on March 3, 1904. He married Leota Hibbard in Flint, Michigan.

1. Larry Stuart: b 11-8-38, in Flint, Michigan; m Marlene Ricca (b 1941 in Houghton, Michigan).

    1. Thomas E: b 1963, in Flint, Michigan.

    2. Timothy J: b 1965, in Flint, Michigan.

    3. Terry Andrew: b 1966, in Flint, Michigan.

    4. Tracey H: b 1968, in Flint, Michigan.

    5. Tammy Sue: b 1970, in Flint, Michigan.

APPENDIX A

THE MATRIMONIAL LIFE OF EDWARD WILLETT
Originally published in 1824

The following is a reproduction of the "Matrimonial Life of Edward Willett" published in 1824 by his son. The format for this little book, and little certainly describes its two by three inch size, is unusual. There is only one known surviving original copy, and that is located in the Quennsborough Public Library. It is reprinted in its entirety.

"Life of Edward Willett"

"As the most important part of my life has been attended with such circumstances as carry the strongest evidence of being under the immediate direction of a divine providence.

I cannot without violating that justice that is due to it , avoid leaving a short account of it, for the contemplation of my married children; in hopes it may be of some use in directing them through the different stages of a married life, with that comfort abd resignation, that will terminate in a happy Eternity; and as my subject has a remearkable circumstance in it that takes its rise from an infant state.

When my Wife was about eighteen months old, and myself about four years, her Father was Clerk of Queens County, and mine Sheriff; the nature of the two offices brought on a famaliar acquaintance between the two families; in so much that they lived without interruption in the greatest harmony of a well united family. In this union they took upon them to give us an infant marriage, and taught us to call each other Husband and Wife. Not long after this, God was pleased to take to himself my Father and Mother, upon which my Grandfather took the charge of me, and as soon as I was fit sent me to school, and kept me at it till I was sixteen years old, and as I was designed for a Farmer, he then took me from school and put me to the plow, where he kept me till I was eighteen years old, and then young as I was, he set me afloat in a fluctuating World, in settling me on my farm with an old Negro, two Horses, a Plow and Harrow, and etc., and as I was industriously following my plow (on a certain day) I saw a young man coming across the field with a gun on his shoulder, who soon came up to me, upon which I stopped my plow and we naturally fell into an indifferent chat, in the run of which I found out his name was John Clowes. (And from a natural instinct that I never could account for) we took such a liking to each other before we parted, that it brought on a very remarkable friendship between us, upon which he frequently came to visit me in my Batchelors Hall, till at length he insisted upon my returning the visits; I accordingly made of a Saturday evening for my first visit, and from the direction of my friend, I rode up to his father's house without any farther

direction; and (Behold) the first object that struck me, was a very agreeable young (Woman) leaning over the door, and supposing her to be a sister of my friend's, I without much ceremony asked her whether her brother John was at home or not; she answered yes, and stepped back and called him, he immediately came to the door and she with him; upon which I was desired to light, and my horse being taken from me, i was introduced by my friend and his sister into the parlor, where we agreeably spent the evening together till we were called to supper; and then became a mixt company till bed time, when my friend and I went to bed together, and the next morning I went to Church with the family, and after Church returned to my Batchelor's Hall.

After this my friend and I alternately continued our visits to each other, in the run of which (young as I was) I was led by a happy impluse to a strict observation of the conduct of this agreeable young woman in her Fathers family, and finding it to have an extraordinary effect upon me, and my situation commanding an agreeable companion to make it happy, I concluded that this must be the very person alloted for that purpose, but upon my addressing her in terms of an unexperienced lover, she at once drew a cloud over my tender hopes, by declaring her attachment to a single life, however upon finding myself a very great favourite of the families, I took courage and repeated my addresses, and the mistress of my heart played a loose game with me for near a year, when our panting hearts mutually engaged each other.

Nothing was now wanting to complete our happiness but the consent of parents, and as her Father was from home at that critical juncture, I had not patience to wait his return, (and though it was something out of joint,) I first applied myself to her mother for her consent, which was no sooner asked than granted; upon which the old Gentlewoman gave me the history of our infant marriage, with her observations how wonderfully providence had brought us together; and upon the return of the old Gentleman all matters being settled agreeable to our wish, soon brought on the happy nuptial day, (which was May 9th, 1722,) my Wife not quite seventeen years old and myself not quite twenty.

Being now agreeable to the laws of God and man, happily joined together, we are consequently entering a life of the greatest importance, and as a token of its being attended with every happy circumstance consequent to it, (young as we were) God was pleased to bless us with a spiritleading to a religious life; and though we were babes in the school of Christ, we became members of the Church of England soon after our marriage, and we invariably walked heart in hand together to the house of the God near fifty-eight years and a half, without once turning out backs upon the Lord's table from any cause that ever occurred.

From this happy beginning we had a comfortable hope of being fixed upon the Rock of ages; from which the next thing to be considered was how to order the things of time, and the things of Eternity, so that they should not interfere with each other in the execution of those duties consequent to those important objects.

But as this life was attended with a variety of circumstances, we consequently had a variety of objects that threw themselves in our way, but in all this variety we were always careful to keep the grand object in view; with a full assurance that nothing can be wanting necessasey (sic) to amke life happy, under the direction of a providence without the least flaw; and although it should be Gods will to lead us through a troubled sea in time, there was an Eternity before us, with a full recompence of reward for every cross purpose that should befall us in a capricious world; from which happy disposition, (though we had many natural infirmities to struggle with,) we were blessed with a spirit not to agravate them; but if at any time a disjoined clashing of opinion happened between us, we carefully avoided adding fuel to increase the flame, but with the greatest care let it die in its own embers; from which practice we were happily preseved from those unhappy broils that all too often happen in a married life, and although we have travelled through a variety of disappointments in this life, we have with one heart, and mind, kept the principal object in view, and gone through them all without the least murmur.

But alas! here the comfort of this world ends, and the scene is changed from a happy life to a sorrowful death; and I have now before me the expiring moments of one of the best of women, and the best of wives; no comfort could a man receive from a woman, but I had it from her; and as we met in love, and lived in love, we parted in love; for not many hours before her death, as I was setting pensive by her bed, she fixed her eyes wishfully upon me, and by the motion of her hand she appeared desireous of speaking to me, but as her speech failed her, she had only power to say my dearest life, upon which I saluted her, and she appeared composed, but never after spoke to be understood; about twelve o'clock at night, as I was lying upon my bed with my clothes on, the watchers came to me, and said there was a great alteration in my wife, and that she appeared very uneasy, and kept putting her hand out as if she wanted something; upon which I rose and went to her, and as soon as I got to the bed side she reached out her hand and took me round the neck and gave me a farewell kiss, and then put her hand to my breast as a token that she had taken her final leave of me; and not long after expired like a Lamb, (which was October 3d, 1780, and the 76 year of her age).

Being now left like a pelican in the wilderness, to drag through those solidary moments, God in his providence has allotted for that purpose; a wide door opens itself for me to

enter in at; but as the entrance presents nothing but gloomy melancholy objects which add nothing but sorrow to my sinking spirits, I shall make a short observation upon the whole and drop my pen.

I once was blessed in a matrimonial connection with one of the best of women, and was as happy in that situation as a person clothed with the infirmities of nature could possibly be, but since God has been pleased to take this happy object to himself, the case is much altered; and although I have forced a cheerfulness in my behaviour to my fellow men, it is so far from affording me any relief that it returns with a double weight upon my spirits, insomuch that I do not lay myself down in my bed but with a heavy heart, neither do I close my eyes to sleep without repeating the two following short Acrosticks, the first, in memory of that dear object that sunk so deep in my heart, and the second, as a caution to myself to tread her steps, that I may meet her in the world of happy spirits."

THE ACROSTICKS

"A las! my hearts delight is fled
to the dark mansions of the dead.
With heavens joy she now is blest,
And with Gods saints hath perfect rest.

Ease then my soul thy mournful strain,
Since thou on earth must still remain.
With patience tread the steps she trod.
And they will lead thee to thy God."

MY WIFE'S EPITAPH

"At length, the Christian's race is run;
A glorious prize she now has won;
With the Angells host she's fix'd
In joys celestial and unmixed."

MY EPITAPH

"Exalt my soul and in joys that flow,
From Gods almighty hand,
Whilst here my mouldering body lies,
To rise at Gods command."

FINIS

THE
MATRIMONIAL LIFE OF
EDWARD WILLETT.
With a variable Style.

NEW-YORK:
Printed by E. K. P. Thomas,
No. 88 Pine Street.
2818.

LIFE
OF
EDWARD WILLETT.

As the most Important part of my life has been attended with such circumstances as carry the strongest evidence of being under the immediate direction of a divine providence.

I cannot without violat-

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ing that justice that is due to it, avoid leaving a short account of it, for the contemplation of my married Children; in hopes it may be of some use in directing them through the different stages of a married life, with that comfort and resignation, that will terminate in a happy Eternity; and as my subject has a re-

markable circumstance in it that takes its rise from an infant state. I shall that every part of it may have its due weight give it that early date.

When my Wife was about eighteen months old, and myself about four years, her Father was Clerk of Queens County, and mine Sheriff; the nature of

the two offices brought on a familiar acquaintance between the two families; in so much that they lived without interruption in the greatest harmony of a well united family. In this union they took upon them to give us an infant marriage, and taught us to call each other Husband and Wife. Not long

after this, God was pleased to take to himself my Father and Mother, upon which my Grandfather took the charge of me, and as soon as I was fit sent me to school, and kept me at it till I was sixteen years old, and as I was designed for a Farmer, he then took me from school and put me to the plow, where he kept

me till I was eighteen years old, and then young as I was, he set me afloat in a fluctuating World, in settling me on my farm with an old Negro, two Horses, a Plow and Harrow; &c. and as I was industriously following my plow (on a certain day,) I saw a young man coming across the field with a gun on his shoulder.

who soon came up to me, upon which I stopped my plow and we naturally fell into an indifferent chat, in the run of which I found out that his name was John Clowes. (And from a natural instinct that I never could account for,) we took such a liking to each other before we parted, that it brought on a very remark-

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able friendship between us, upon which he frequently came to visit me in my Batchelors Hall, till at length he insisted upon my returning the visits; I accordingly made choice of a Saturday evening for my first visit, and from the direction of my friend, I rode up to his father's house without any farther direction; and

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(Behold) the first object that struck me, was a very agreeable young Woman leaning over the door, and supposing her to be a sister of my friend's, I without much ceremony asked her whether her brother John was at home or not; she answered yes, and stepped back and called him, he immediately came to the

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door and she with him; upon which I was desired to light, and my horse being taken from me, I was introduced by my friend and his sister into the parlour, where we agreeably spent the evening together till we were called to supper; and then became a mixt company till bed time, when my friend and I went to

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bed together, and the next morning I went to Church with the family, and after Church returned to my Batchelors Hall.

After this my friend and I alternately continued our visits to each other, in the run of which (young as I was,) I was led by a happy impulse to a strict observation of the conduct of this

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agreeable young woman in her Fathers family, and finding it to have an extraordinary effect upon me, and my situation commanding an agreeable companion to make it happy, I concluded that this must be the very person that providence had allotted for that purpose, but upon my addressing her in terms of an un-

(15)

experienced lover, she at once drew a cloud over my tender hopes, by declaring her attachment to a single life, however upon finding myself a very great favourite of the families, I took courage and repeated my addresses, and the mistress of my heart played a loose game with me for near a year, when our panting

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hearts mutually engaged each other.

Nothing was now wanting to compleat our happiness but the consent of parents, and as her Father was from home at that critical juncture, I had not patience to wait his return, (and though it was somethihg out of joint,) I first applied myself to her

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mother for her consent, which was no sooner asked than granted; upon which the old Gentlewoman gave me the history of our infant marriage, with her observations how wonderfully providence had brought us together; and upon the return of the old Gentleman all matters being settled agreeable to our wish, soon

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brought on the happy nuptial day, (which was May 9th. 1722,) my Wife not quite seventeen years old and myself not quite twenty.

Being now agreeable to the laws of God and man, happily joined together, we are consequently entering a life of the greatest importance, and as a token of

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its being attended with every happy circumstance consequent to it, (young as we were) God was pleased to bless us with a spirit leading to a religious life; and though we were babes in the school of Christ, we became members of the Church of England soon after our marriage, and invariably walked heart and

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hand together to the house of God near fifty-eight years and a half, without once turning our backs upon the Lord's table from any cause that ever occurred.

From this happy beginning we had a comfortable hope of being fixed upon the Rock of ages; from which the next thing to be

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considered, was how to order the things of time, and the things of Eternity, so that they should not interfere with each other in the execution of those duties consequent to those important objects.

But as this life was attended with a variety of circumstances, we consequently had a variety of ob-

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jects that threw themselves in our way, but in all this variety we were always careful to keep the grand object in view; with a full assurance that nothing can be wanting necessary to make life happy, under the direction of a providence without the least flaw; and although it should be Gods will to lead us through a

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troubled sea in time, there was an Eternity before us, with a full recompence of reward for every cross purpose that should befall us in a capricious world; from which happy disposition, (though we had many natural infirmities to struggle with,) we were blessed with a spirit not to agravate them; but if at any time

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a disjointed clashing of opinion happened between us, we carefully avoided adding fuel to increase a flame, but with the greatest care let it die in its own embers; from which practice we were happily preserved from those unhappy broils that too often happen in a married life, and though we have travelled through

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a variety of disappointments in this life, we have with one heart, and mind, kept the principal object in view, and gone through them all without the least murmur.

But alas! here the comfort of this world ends, and the scene is changed from a happy life to a sorrowful death; and I have now be-

(26)

fore me the expiring moments of one of the best of women, and the best of wives; no comfort could a man receive from a woman, but I had it from her; and as we met in love, and lived in love, we parted in love; for not many hours before her death, as I was setting pensive by her bed side, she fixed her eyes

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wishfully upon me, and by the motion of her [illegible] she appeared desirous of speaking to me, but as her speech failed her, she had only power to say my dearest life, upon which I saluted her, and she appeared composed, but never after spoke to be understood; about twelve o'clock at night, as I was lying upon

(28)

my bed with my clothes on, the watchers came to me, and said there was a very great alteration in my wife, and that she appeared very uneasy, and kept putting out her hand as if she wanted something; upon which I rose and went to her, and as soon as I got to the bed side she reached out her hand and took me

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round the neck and gave me a farewell kiss, and then put her hand to my breast as a token that she had taken her final leave of me; and not long after expired like a Lamb, (which was October 3d. 1780, and the 76 year of her age.

Being now left like a pelican in the wilderness, to drag through those solitary

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moments, God in his providence has allotted for that purpose; a wide door opens itself for me to enter in at; but as the entrance presents me with nothing but gloomy melancholy objects which add nothing but sorrow to my sinking spirits, I shall make a short observation upon the whole and drop my pen.

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I once was blessed in a matrimonial connection with one of the best of women, and was as happy in that situation as a person clothed with the infirmities of nature could possibly be, but since God has been pleased to take this happy object to himself, the case is much altered; and although I have forced a

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cheerfulness in my behaviour to my fellow men, it is so far from affording me any relief that it returns with a double weight upon my spirits, insomuch that I do not lay myself down in my bed but with a heavy heart, neither do I close my eyes to sleep without repeating the two following short Acrosticks, the

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first, in memory of that dear object that sunk so deep in my heart, the second, as a caution to myself to tread her steps, that I may meet her in the world of happy SPIRITS.

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THE ACROSTICKS.

A las! my hearts delight is fled
To the dark mansions of the dead.
With heavens joy she now is blest,
And with Gods saints hath perfect rest.

Ease then my soul thy mournful strain,
Since thou on earth must still remain.
With patience tread the steps she trod,
And they will lead thee to thy God.

(35)

MY WIFES EPITAPH.

At length the Christian's race is run;
A glorious prize she now has won;
With the Angelic host she's join'd
In joys celestial and unmix'd.

MY EPITAPH.

Exalted soul in Joys that flow,
From Gods Almighty hand.
While here my mouldering body lies,
To rise at Gods command.

FINIS.

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